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COMMITTEE MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

PERMITTING AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

JOE SERNA, JR., CAL/EPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

COASTAL HEARING ROOM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2007

10:00 A.M.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

ii

#### APPEARANCES

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Rosalie Mulé, Chair

Mr. Jeffrey Danzinger

### BOARD MEMBER ALSO PRESENT

Ms. Margo Reid Brown

Mr. Wesley Chesbro

#### STAFF

Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director

Ms. Julie Nauman, Chief Deputy Director

Mr. Elliot Block, Chief Counsel

Mr. Richard Castle, Staff

Mr. Tad Gebre-Hawariat, Staff

Mr. Mike Leaon, Supervisor, Plastics Recycling Technology Section

Mr. Jim Lee, Deputy Director, Special Waste Division

Mr. Howard Levenson, Deputy Director, Permitting & Enforcement Division

Mr. Wes Mindermann, Supervisor, Solid Waste Cleanup Programs Section

Ms. Dianne Ohiosumua, Staff

Ms. Carla Repucci, Staff

Mr. Edward Reidhead, Staff

Mr. John Smith, Acting Deputy Director, Waste Prevention and Market Development

Ms. Geralda Stryker, Supervisor, South Central Section

iii

### APPEARANCES CONTINUED

### STAFF

Mr. Todd Thalhamer, Staff

Ms. Lorraine Van Kekerix, Acting Deputy Director, Diversion, Planning & Local Assistance Division

## ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Clancy Tenley, U.S. EPA

Ms. Paula Harold, San Bernardino County LEA

Mr. Chuck Helget, Allied Waste

Mr. George Larson, Waste Management, Illinois Tool Works, American Chemistry Council

Mr. Bill Magavern, Sierra Club

Mr. Randy Pollack, Law Offices of Randy Pollack

iv

# INDEX

	I	PAGE
	Roll Call And Declaration Of Quorum	1
	Public Comment	
Α.	Deputy Director's Report	2
В.	Consideration of the 2003/2004 Biennial Review Findings for the Source Reduction and Recycling Element; and Consideration of Issuance of a Compliance Order for the City of Downey, Los Angeles County (March Board Item 1)	12
C.	Consideration of a Revised Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Disposal Facility) for the U.S.M.C. 29 Palms Disposal Facility, San Bernardir County (March Board Item 2)	22 10
D.	Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Transfer/Processing Facility) for Mid Valley Disposal Recycling and Transfer Station, Fresno County (March Board Item 3)	s 25
E.	Consideration of a Revised Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Disposal Facility) for the Ramona Landfill, San Diego County (March Board Item 4)	29
F.	Consideration of a Grant Award for the Solid Waste Disposal and Codispsal Site Cleanup Program (Solid Waste Disposal Trust Fund, FY 2006/07) (March Board Item 5)	30
G.	Consideration of New Projects for the Solid Waste Disposal and Codisposal Site Cleanup Program (Solid waste Disposal Trust Fund, FY 2006/07) (March Board Item 6)	34
н.	Consideration of the Grant Awards for the Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program (Farm and Ranch Cleanup Account, FY 2006/07) (March Board Item 7)	56

V

## INDEX CONTINUED

		PAGE
I.	Discussion and Request for Rulemaking Direction to Notice for 45-Day Comment Period Proposed Regulations of Postclosure Maintenance and Financial Assurance Demonstrations for Landfills (March Board Item 8)	58
J.	Request for Rulemaking Direction Regarding Revisions to the Rigid Plastic Packaging Contains Regulations ( March Board Item 9)	86 er
К.	Adjournment	104
L.	Reporter's Certificate	105

- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning, everybody.
- 3 Welcome to the March 5th meeting of the Permitting and
- 4 Compliance Committee. We have agendas on the back table.
- 5 I'm going to ask everybody to either turn off or put in
- 6 the silent mode your cell phones and pagers. And if you
- 7 would like to speak to any item on the agenda, please fill
- 8 out a speaker slip and bring it up to Donnell and you'll
- 9 have an opportunity to address the Committee.
- 10 Donnell, would you please call the roll?
- 11 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Members Danzinger?
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Here.
- 13 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Here.
- 15 And we also have with us today Board Member
- 16 Chesbro. Thank you for being here.
- 17 And do we have any ex partes?
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Up to date.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I just spoke briefly with Pat
- 20 Schiavo.
- 21 With that, let's proceed to our Deputy Director's
- 22 report. First, we're going to go with Jim Lee and then
- 23 Lorraine. And then we'll go to Item 1. And then we'll do
- 24 Howard's Deputy Director's report and then continue with
- 25 Item 2.

- 1 So Jim.
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 3 Good morning, Board members. My name is Jim Lee, Deputy
- 4 Director for the Special Waste Division.
- 5 Madam Chair, I just have one item on my Deputy
- 6 Director's report I wanted to bring to your attention. As
- 7 you know, the Board has a nationally recognized expert on
- 8 landfill fire suppression. It's Mr. Todd Thalhamer.
- 9 Todd's expertise was recently called upon through a
- 10 request made to our Executive Director from the head of
- 11 the state of Ohio's Environmental Protection Agency. They
- 12 had a landfill fire they felt that Todd could assist with.
- 13 And Todd has recently provided some assistance. And we
- 14 wanted to update the Committee on that particular work
- 15 that was accomplished there.
- And, again, as I also wanted to note as an aside
- 17 and as a measure of Todd's dedication to duty that, you
- 18 know, he is here today to make this presentation, despite
- 19 the fact he and his wife are expecting their second child
- 20 any hour now as I'm told. So without further ado and so
- 21 we can get Todd out of here in short order, I'd like to
- 22 turn it over to Todd to make the remainder of the staff
- 23 presentation.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning.
- 25 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was

- presented as follows.)
- MR. THALHAMER: Good morning. Just to let you
- 3 know, my ringer will be on. So I do want to violate one
- 4 Board policy real quickly.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: You are the exception to the
- 6 rule.
- 7 MR. THALHAMER: Thank you.
- 8 Just going to give you a brief overview of the
- 9 particular incident in Ohio. It was a very unique
- 10 situation. And I felt that it could provide some insight
- 11 here in California, a few lessons learned as well.
- 12 As I'm calling it the perfect storm both on the
- 13 landfill end of things and both also on the political side
- 14 of things. Ohio had a change in their government, and I
- 15 had briefed actually two directors, one on the 31st of
- 16 January and a new director on the February 1st. So it was
- 17 interesting just to see the dichotomy and the
- 18 administration change as well.
- 19 --000--
- 20 MR. THALHAMER: Quickly a summary. Ohio EPA
- 21 requested myself to evaluate a landfill fire at Countywide
- 22 Recycling and Disposal Facility. This was precipitated by
- 23 the fact that I just got done doing a training course for
- 24 the state of Ohio on landfill fires in May 2006.
- I did not know at the time, but I did have a

- 1 consultant that came up to me during the course and asked
- 2 me about a heating issue with aluminum dross, which is a
- 3 foundry waste from the manufacturing of aluminum. At that
- 4 time, I did not know that this was the particular issue.
- 5 So we did a little discussion on the side, and nothing
- 6 came about that.
- 7 Later in August, I was contacted by U.S. EPA
- 8 Region 5 concerning a landfill fire or a potential
- 9 landfill fire at a facility called Countywide. It wasn't
- 10 until January 31st that Ohio requested myself to travel to
- 11 Ohio to review the facility, the records, and
- 12 documentations and render opinion.
- --000--
- MR. THALHAMER: With that said, you saw the
- 15 helicopter in the first slide. This is an aerial shot of
- 16 the facility. And the lower right-hand side was about 88
- 17 acres, of which 30 acres were affected. Started having
- 18 some heating issues back in November 2005. Carbon
- 19 monoxide was detected around four or 5,000 PPM in February
- 20 2006, and had over 35 feet of settlement within six months
- 21 in this area. This was attributed to a reaction of
- 22 aluminum dross. That's just a waste product. It's
- 23 interesting to note here in California we would not accept
- 24 aluminum dross in our solid waste facilities because of
- 25 the hazardous waste regulations that are in place for

- 1 California. And I will make a statement I will thank DTSC
- 2 for those regulations, because this particular
- 3 circumstance would have not occurred in California given
- 4 the fact that we have special regulations that would
- 5 require aluminum dross to be disposed of at a hazardous
- 6 waste facility.
- 7 This whole thing was brought to light. And the
- 8 reason I was out there was that an aerial survey company
- 9 flew the site in August and showed that they had about two
- 10 acres that were under heating event. And December, it
- 11 showed 26 acres under a heating event, a 13-fold increase.
- 12 At that point, he went to the papers. The political
- 13 change came into play, and I was requested to come out and
- 14 provide an opinion.
- --o0o--
- 16 MR. THALHAMER: This is just a quick overview.
- 17 In August, this was the two acre area that was the heating
- 18 event. This is now the heating event that they were
- 19 occurring to. A significant increase in the facility
- 20 operations. They take approximately 6,000 tons of waste a
- 21 day, so this is not a small facility. It's owned by
- 22 Republic Waste, I believe the third largest disposal
- 23 facility in the United States.
- 24 --000--
- MR. THALHAMER: This was infrared that was shot

- 1 in August.
- 2 --000--
- 3 MR. THALHAMER: Now you can see the whole 26
- 4 acres. You can see the increased temperatures and the gas
- 5 extraction system.
- --000--
- 7 MR. THALHAMER: And this is the entire facility
- 8 laid out. The bright spots are the actual flare stations.
- 9 So you can see we had a dramatic increase on the heating
- 10 event that was occurring in the facility.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 MR. THALHAMER: This is probably the most complex
- 13 landfill fire I've looked into. It was not in the
- 14 literature as far as the reactions with aluminum dross.
- 15 It was heavily debated by the landfill. They claimed it
- 16 was pyrolysis, not a landfill fire. Ohio EPA's internal,
- 17 they were split. There was a small group in Ohio EPA that
- 18 was looking at the overall issues. But most of Ohio EPA
- 19 basically agreed with the landfill it was not on fire and
- 20 that it was pyrolysis of the waste.
- 21 Again, interesting note here is that we changed
- 22 directors February 1st. So I hit the ground January 31st
- 23 and briefed the director. February 1st, I briefed a new
- 24 director. So it was an interesting political change in
- 25 the organization. So from that perspective, it was

- 1 definitely a perfect storm on both the landfill and
- 2 political regulatory side.
- 3 --000--
- 4 MR. THALHAMER: Just to give you a reaction
- 5 definition of what was going on. I explained to Ohio in a
- 6 letter I provided to them that the definition of a fire is
- 7 self-sustaining chemical reaction that produces energy.
- 8 And the aluminum dross reaction that is there by adding
- 9 water to aluminum, you produce hydrogen gas and aluminum
- 10 oxide, which is heat. It's very similar, not at the same
- 11 scale as the high school chemistry when we threw the
- 12 sodium into the water, and you saw that reaction take
- 13 place. Well, all the MSDS and all the regulatory
- 14 information that's out there on aluminum dross is reactive
- 15 to water.
- 16 Unfortunately, the landfill recirculated their
- 17 leachate through this facility. When they recirculated
- 18 the leachate to the facility, it kicked off a reaction on
- 19 the aluminum dross, a severe reaction to the point where
- 20 they were no longer producing methane. They were
- 21 producing hydrogen to 30 to 60 percent. Normally you
- 22 would produce methane at 30 to 60 percent. It took the
- 23 place of the methane.
- 24 Again, I would say quickly just a quick overview
- 25 is a landfill fire's carbon monoxide is over 1,000 PPM,

- 1 high temperatures over 350 degrees, smoke, settlement, et
- 2 cetera, those points.
- 3 --000--
- 4 MR. THALHAMER: From my evaluation, I determined
- 5 there were two fires. To the amazement of both Ohio EPA,
- 6 the public, and the press, and the landfill, I basically
- 7 stated in my record that there was a metal fire from the
- 8 aluminum dross, which met the definition of a fire in
- 9 Websters and throughout fire science. That particular
- 10 metal fire actually caused a smoldering fire in the waste.
- 11 That's where the carbon monoxide came from.
- 12 I provided an 11-point recommendation to the new
- 13 director, and that actually hit the press. And just for a
- 14 quick laugh, if you type in "Thalhamer landfill fire,"
- 15 you'll see over 30 to 40 articles of this particular
- 16 event. So in the political sense of things, this was a
- 17 very contentious issue in Ohio. Many a public groups,
- 18 many a public citizens, many lawsuits are probably on
- 19 their way down the pipe.
- 20 But that was just a quick overview of my trip to
- 21 Ohio.
- --000--
- MR. THALHAMER: Any questions?
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any questions for Todd? Well,
- 25 Todd, thank you for going to Ohio and sharing your

- 1 expertise with them. Thank you for sharing your
- 2 presentation with us.
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: And adding to our
- 4 good reputation. Thanks, Todd.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. With that, Lorraine,
- 6 would you like to give us your Deputy Director's report?
- 7 Good morning.
- 8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR VAN KEKERIX: Good morning.
- 9 Well, I'm sorry I have nothing as exciting as Todd's to
- 10 report.
- I have an update on biennial reviews of
- 12 jurisdictions and reports. As of the February Board
- 13 meeting, the Board has proved biennial review findings for
- 14 292 jurisdictions. Of these, 256 jurisdictions were found
- 15 to have met the diversion goal and implemented diversion
- 16 programs. Thirty-four jurisdictions were found to be in
- 17 compliance by demonstrating a good faith effort to meet
- 18 the diversion goals through implementation of diversion
- 19 programs as two jurisdictions were issued compliance
- 20 orders for failure to comply with the diversion mandate.
- 21 For 2003-2004 biennial review for jurisdictions
- 22 that have met the diversion requirements and implemented
- 23 diversion programs were presented to the Executive
- 24 Director as delegated actions this month. One 2003-2004
- 25 biennial review is being presented to the Board this

- 1 month. And over the next few months, OLA staff will bring
- 2 the biennial review findings for the remaining nine
- 3 jurisdictions that are before the Board for consideration.
- 4 118 jurisdictions were not subject to a biennial review as
- 5 they were either granted an SB 1066 Time Extension that
- 6 lasted through 2005 or they were already under a
- 7 Compliance Order.
- I have a reminder about jurisdictions and report
- 9 due dates for those jurisdictions who are listening in.
- 10 The due date for local jurisdictions to submit to the
- 11 Board their annual reports for 2005 calendar year is March
- 12 15th of 2007. We haven't had a lot of action on the
- 13 website yet as it's an on-line report. As of March 1st,
- 14 63 out of 421 local jurisdictions have submitted their
- 15 annual reports.
- We anticipate completing the review of the 2005
- 17 annual reports by July. We also have State agency annual
- 18 reports due. Their annual reports for the 2006 program
- 19 year are due to the Waste Board by April 1st of 2007.
- 20 There's a different method used for measurement so their
- 21 information is more current. The State organization and
- 22 facility assistance section is working to answer
- 23 questions. And as of the end of February, we have 31 of
- 24 the 404 reports submitted; 150 agencies and facilities are
- 25 in the process of finalizing their report; and 223

- 1 agencies and facilities have not yet accessed the
- 2 electronic reporting system.
- 3 And finally, I wanted to let you know that our
- 4 Disposal Reporting System survey week site visits will be
- 5 taking place a little bit later this week and into next
- 6 week. Regulations require that disposal facilities asked
- 7 each driver with a small load of uncompacted waste, less
- 8 than 12 cubic yards, where the waste is from during the
- 9 8th through the 14th of the last month of each quarter.
- 10 DPLA staff will be visiting landfills, transfer station,
- 11 and transformation facilities with trucks full of waste
- 12 during survey week to determine whether the disposal
- 13 facilities are asking and correctly recording the
- 14 jurisdiction where the waste comes from. This is critical
- 15 data in determining the diversion rates for each
- 16 jurisdiction.
- 17 And that ends my Deputy Director report.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Great. Thank you, Lorraine.
- 19 Do we have any questions for Lorraine?
- 20 Board Member Danzinger.
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Lorraine, are all
- 22 those reports, are those tracking pretty much like they
- 23 have in past years? Because some of them look like
- 24 there's still a lot that need in a brief period of time.
- 25 But is that unusual?

- 1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR VAN KEKERIX: Well, yes. We're a
- 2 little lower than we usually are at this time of the year.
- 3 So we're getting out mass e-mails and asking staff to
- 4 phone either their state agencies or jurisdictions so that
- 5 we get these things in on time.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Thanks
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: You have ten days -- or they
- 8 have ten days.
- 9 So let's move to Committee Item B, Board Agenda
- 10 Item 1.
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR VAN KEKERIX: Committee Item B is
- 12 Consideration of 2003-2004 Biennial Review Findings for
- 13 the Source Reduction and Recycling Element, and
- 14 Consideration of Issuance of a Compliance Order for the
- 15 City of Downey, Los Angeles County.
- 16 And I would say that the Compliance Order does
- 17 present an opportunity for a jurisdiction to take care of
- 18 issues before coming back before the Board. And we are
- 19 hopeful that jurisdictions on compliance take advantage of
- 20 the opportunity rather than coming back for a potential
- 21 penalty hearing. And Edward Reidhead of our Los Angeles
- 22 staff will be giving the presentation today.
- 23 MR. REIDHEAD: Thank you, Lorraine. Good
- 24 morning, Chairperson Mulé and Committee members.
- 25 Board staff is bringing forward its 2003-2004

- 1 biennial review findings that the City of Downey has
- 2 failed to adequately implement its diversion programs to
- 3 meet State diversion requirements and PRC 41780.
- 4 Board staff has met with city representatives
- 5 regarding city programs and staff's biennial review
- 6 findings. The primary processing facility that handles
- 7 waste collected from the city was also visited as part of
- 8 staff's review. Staff's review to date points to the need
- 9 for improvement in the city's commercial and C&D recovery
- 10 programs.
- 11 The City of Downey was issued a time extension
- 12 through December 2004. The City's time extension
- 13 indicated that a C&D ordinance would be adopted and
- 14 implemented. To date, the City has not enacted a C&D
- 15 ordinance. However, a policy was developed. The policy
- 16 does not make requirements of the franchised hauler to
- 17 divert collected materials. Although the City may be
- 18 considered built out, redevelopment throughout the city is
- 19 occurring, resulting in significant amounts of
- 20 construction and demolition waste. Increased diversion
- 21 from this sector is necessary for the City to meet
- 22 diversion requirements.
- 23 Board staff visited the facility where the City
- 24 directs the hauler to send all commercial loads for
- 25 processing. Board staff observed that some commercial

- 1 loads were floor sorted to recover recyclables.
- 2 Approximately half of all commercial loads were floor
- 3 sorted and the other half were disposed. The haulers'
- 4 2004 tonnage report indicates that less than five percent
- 5 of commercial waste was handled by -- the hauler's 2004
- 6 tonnage report indicates less than five percent of
- 7 commercial waste by the franchise hauler was diverted.
- 8 Staff's review of diversion data indicates that program
- 9 enhancements to support diversion of commercial and C&D
- 10 waste are needed as limited sorting and processing of
- 11 materials is not providing sufficient recovery to support
- 12 the City's achievement of diversion requirements.
- The City's 2003-2004 diversion rates are 43
- 14 percent and 44 percent respectively. Board staff
- 15 recommends the Board issuing the City a Compliance Order
- 16 that will require the City to work directly with Board
- 17 staff to develop a Local Assistance Plan. The plan will
- 18 identify a strategy for program enhancements and local
- 19 actions necessary to enable the City to achieve diversion
- 20 requirements.
- 21 This concludes my presentation. Mr. Desi
- 22 Alvarez, Public Works Director for the City of Downey, is
- 23 here to answer any questions. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Edward.
- 25 Mr. Alvarez, would you like to address the

- 1 Committee? Good morning.
- 2 MR. ALVAREZ: Good morning, Madam Chair and
- 3 members of the Committee. My name is Desi Alvarez, and
- 4 I'm the Public Works Director for the City of Downey.
- 5 Thank you very much for the opportunity to come up. I'd
- 6 like to thank your staff. They've been very good to work
- 7 with and looking at our overall program.
- 8 And one of the things I'd like to say is it's
- 9 good that every once in a while we do audit things,
- 10 because we all think we're doing very well. And then we
- 11 find out that some things aren't working the way we
- 12 anticipated.
- 13 The city of Downey has traditionally been very
- 14 aggressive in promoting recycling. Beginning back in
- 15 1976, the city was one of the first in the state to
- 16 implement a voluntary curbside recycling program. And
- 17 that program has been expanded over the years and today
- 18 serves as a model in our region as one of the better
- 19 programs around. And many others have copied that
- 20 program.
- 21 Unfortunately, as we found out, our commercial
- 22 growth has really gotten out of control if you will in the
- 23 recent past. And because of the commercial diversion
- 24 issues, we have not been able to meet our diversion
- 25 requirements. So we're looking forward to taking

- 1 advantage of this Compliance Order to work with your staff
- 2 in developing programs that will be aggressively pursuing
- 3 significant improvements in our overall diversion rate.
- 4 We are making a commitment to you that we will do
- 5 everything possible to get there, including increasing our
- 6 outreach and education programs, working with our haulers
- 7 in developing new programs and implementing a C&D
- 8 ordinance.
- 9 If there are any questions, I'd be pleased to
- 10 answer them.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Board Member Danzinger.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I'm just curious, 43
- 13 and 44, those are respectable numbers. And from what I
- 14 read, it seems you're going to get there, you know. I
- 15 guess I'm just struck by the policy, the C&D policy, why
- 16 the policy would be written that requires the businesses
- 17 to use the hauler, but then a requirement wasn't placed on
- 18 the hauler to divert. It just seems -- you know, it seems
- 19 like you got halfway there and then you just stopped and
- 20 fell one step short of the requirement that would get you
- 21 there. And I mean, if you told me or anyone probably
- 22 three years ago this is how we're going to do it, I think
- 23 a lot of people might say -- it depends on the hauler,
- 24 too. But three percent, the connection there is pretty
- 25 strong. So I'm wondering what kind of thinking went into

- 1 that and why that requirement wasn't placed.
- MR. ALVAREZ: We thought that the voluntary
- 3 program was going to get us there. Traditionally, in the
- 4 past we've had good success --
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Is the voluntary
- 6 program working in terms of the businesses participating?
- 7 I mean, I guess that's what I'm curious about. It could
- 8 be all the commercial businesses and all the commercial
- 9 activities they are participating in the sense that they
- 10 are using the City's franchise hauler, you know, to get
- 11 rid of the C&D. And then so I don't know if that
- 12 participation has been adequate. But then on the other
- 13 end, the policy, you know, flaw of then not placing a
- 14 requirement on the hauler to actually divert those
- 15 materials. So the C&D, yeah. So I don't -- and how much
- 16 with the growth that's going on, I don't know. That might
- 17 make up the difference between 43 and 50 percent. I don't
- 18 know.
- 19 MR. ALVAREZ: We've had significant growth just
- 20 in building permits and so on. It's a 62 percent growth
- 21 in the past two years. There's an awful lot of that type
- 22 of activity. And I don't know -- I don't have an exact
- 23 good answer for you. It's just one of those things that
- 24 just got out of control.
- 25 The other thing is we do designate a specific

- 1 transfer station that all the waste is to go to and
- 2 previously that was sorted. And as your staff mentioned,
- 3 some of that is floor sorted now and some of it is not.
- 4 And that was due to a change in the operations of that
- 5 facility. So that's something else we do need to take
- 6 into consideration.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Well, I guess the
- 8 optimistic way to look at it is you have tremendous
- 9 opportunity. If you've got the hauler diverting the C&D,
- 10 I mean, my guess is you're going to get there, and you're
- 11 going to get there in a big way.
- 12 MR. ALVAREZ: We look at this as an opportunity.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Very good. Because that's how
- 14 we look at it. We look at this as an opportunity for you
- 15 to improve on your current programs and policies. For
- 16 example, with the C&D ordinance, it would be a policy to
- 17 an ordinance.
- 18 And then the second thing I wanted to bring up is
- 19 the commercial diversion. I think again there's quite a
- 20 bit of opportunity. Rather than bringing it to the
- 21 transfer station and sorting it then, it probably would
- 22 behoove the cities to work with their haulers to set up a
- 23 commercial recycling program to separate that material at
- 24 the site and then collect it. And then it's clean
- 25 material that can go directly to a MRF for processing it.

- 1 Thank you for being here. We really appreciate
- 2 it. And we appreciate your commitment to making this
- 3 work. So thank you very much.
- 4 MR. ALVAREZ: Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Any other questions,
- 6 comments? Do I have a motion?
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Yes, you do. I'll
- 8 move Resolution 2007-65.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Second.
- 10 Donnell, would you call the roll, please?
- 11 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Member Danzinger?
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 13 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- We'll put that on consent.
- 16 Thank you. Thank you, Edward, Steve for being
- 17 here.
- 18 Howard, you're up next for your Deputy Director's
- 19 report. Good morning.
- 20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam
- 21 Chair. And good morning to you and Members Danzinger and
- 22 Chesbro. I'm Howard Levenson, Deputy Director for
- 23 Permitting and Enforcement. And I have three items I'd
- 24 like to quickly bring to your attention.
- 25 First is concerning existing regulatory packages

- 1 that are in development or further along. I wanted to let
- 2 you know that the permit implementation regulations which
- 3 the Board has approved late last week and which we
- 4 forwarded to the Office of Administrative Law are almost
- 5 at the time frame when they'll be effective. OAL has
- 6 until sometime next week to make any final comments on it.
- 7 And assuming there is nothing major, then the
- 8 regulations will become effective in 30 days from the date
- 9 of that OAL determination, approximately mid-April. Those
- 10 are the regulations that include provisions related to
- 11 significant change and public noticing and hearing
- 12 requirements and a variety of other issues. So we're
- 13 getting close.
- 14 The second package that I wanted to mention is
- 15 the active disposal site gas monitoring and control
- 16 regulations which the Committee directed us last month to
- 17 go out for an additional 15-day comment period. That
- 18 comment period ends on March 9th. And then we will plan
- 19 to return to the Committee in April hopefully for adoption
- 20 of those regulations.
- 21 Second thing I wanted to let you know about is
- 22 our collaboration with the Water Board on financial
- 23 assurances training. As you know, under Title 27, the
- 24 Water Board has financial assurance requirements for water
- 25 quality related corrective actions, something that we

- 1 don't have and which is the subject of a later item. But
- 2 we have provided training. We do administer that program
- 3 for the Water Board. And we have provided training to
- 4 them in the past. And we will be providing training for
- 5 their southern California regional staff, Regional Board
- 6 staff later on this month on the mechanics of that program
- 7 and some of the other financial assurance requirements
- 8 that are already existing.
- 9 And then lastly, I wanted to bring to your
- 10 attention the California Biomass Collaborative's fourth
- 11 annual forum which will be held later this month, March 27
- 12 and 28th, here at Cal/EPA. As you know, the Biomass
- 13 Collaborative is funded partly by CEC, the Energy
- 14 Commission. And it provides a lot of the background work
- 15 for the Governor's Bioenergy Interagency Working Group.
- 16 And we're part of that, an active part of that.
- 17 The fourth annual collaborative, the second day
- 18 the Board is sponsoring a focused set of sessions on solid
- 19 waste to biofuels opportunities. And I think the agenda
- 20 is shaping up very nicely. There is an announcement on
- 21 our website. But we have, for example, Blue Fire Ethanol
- 22 will be speaking. And they just received a \$40 million
- 23 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for a facility
- 24 down in southern California. That's very exciting news on
- 25 that front, and we'll be watching that very closely. We

- 1 also have a speaker from biogas production from
- 2 Switzerland and others are on the docket. So it's looking
- 3 pretty good.
- 4 That particular day also will be structured to
- 5 have break-out sessions at the end so that the
- 6 participants can identify any barriers that they see to
- 7 the development of alternative energy and biofuels kinds
- 8 of projects. And then at least get their sense of what
- 9 potential solutions might be so we can bring that back to
- 10 both the Board later on and to the Bioenergy Working
- 11 Group.
- 12 That's all I have for my Deputy Director's
- 13 report. I'd be happy to answer any questions.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any questions?
- Okay. We'll proceed with Committee Item C.
- 16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: We have three permit
- 17 items. The first one is Consideration of a Revised Full
- 18 Solid Waste Facilities Permit for the U.S. Marine Corps'
- 19 29 Palms Disposal Facility in San Bernardino County.
- 20 Dianne Ohiosumua will be giving that presentation.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning.
- MS. OHIOSUMUA: The proposed permit will allow
- 23 the following: A vertical landfill expansion; a lateral
- 24 expansion; a development of a new landfill cell;
- 25 construction of a transfer/processing facility; expansion

- 1 of the total permitted acreage; updating of the JTD;
- 2 changing the estimated closure year; increasing the design
- 3 capacity; increasing the maximum elevation; increasing the
- 4 maximum daily tonnage; and modifying and deletions of the
- 5 language in the permit conditions.
- 6 Board staff finds that the LEA has made all of
- 7 the necessary findings relevant to the permit. At the
- 8 time this item was prepared, Board staff had determined
- 9 all but two of the requirements for the proposed permit.
- 10 As indicated in the revised agenda item, Board staff has
- 11 now made all of the required findings including the
- 12 finding that the joint technical document meets the
- 13 requirement and the facility is in compliance with the
- 14 State Minimum Standards.
- 15 Board staff recommends that the Board adopt Solid
- 16 Waste Facility Permit Decision Number 2007-66 concurring
- 17 with the issuance of a Solid Waste Facility Permit Number
- 18 36-AA-0067. Representatives from the San Bernardino
- 19 County LEA is here to answer your questions. And that
- 20 concludes staff's presentation.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Dianne.
- Do we have any questions?
- 23 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: May I ask? The Marine
- 24 Corps is the operator, or do they contract it?
- MS. OHIOSUMUA: They contract it.

- 1 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Who actually operates --
- 2 MS. OHIOSUMUA: They contracted to a civilian
- 3 company that's on base.
- 4 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I couldn't find it in the
- 5 document.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I didn't see it either. I
- 7 thought the Marine Corps operated it. Do we know who the
- 8 company is that runs the facility for them?
- 9 MS. OHIOSUMUA: The LEA will come and answer that
- 10 question.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Diane.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: The Marine Corps is
- 13 listed as the operator in the permit.
- 14 MS. HAROLD: Right. It is the Marine Corps, and
- 15 it's their facility's --
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Management.
- 17 MS. HAROLD: -- management division.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: So it's not a
- 19 civilian contractor that operates it?
- MS. HAROLD: No.
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: They would be DOD
- 22 civilians as part of FMD, but they would still --
- MS. HAROLD: Yeah.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: They would not be --
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you for that question.

- 1 And thank you for the clarification.
- 2 MS. HAROLD: My name is Paula Harold, the San
- 3 Bernardino County LEA.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you very much.
- 5 Do we have any other questions?
- 6 Do we have a motion?
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I'll move Resolution
- 8 2007-66 revised.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Second.
- 10 Donnell, please call the roll.
- 11 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Member Danzinger?
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 13 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- We'll put that one on consent.
- Our next item is Committee Item D.
- 17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam
- 18 Chair.
- 19 This item is Consideration of a New Full Solid
- 20 Waste Facilities Permit for the Mid Valley Disposal
- 21 Recycling and Transfer Station in Fresno County. Geri
- 22 Stryker will make that presentation.
- 23 SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION SUPERVISOR STRYKER: Good
- 24 morning. Good morning, Chair and members. My name is
- 25 Geri Stryker from the Permitting and Inspection Branch.

- 1 And I will be making the presentation on behalf of my
- 2 staff, Virginia Humphreys.
- 3 This item is Consideration of a New Solid Waste
- 4 Facilities Permit for the Mid Valley Disposal Recycling
- 5 and Transfer Station. This is a newly proposed 34,250
- 6 square foot material recovery facility and waste transfer
- 7 station which includes a 22,000 square foot enclosed
- 8 tipping area for recyclable and mixed MSW as well as an
- 9 uncovered area for handling green waste and C&D debris.
- 10 The facility peak design capacity is 1,000 tons
- 11 per day. However, the facility's proposed maximum
- 12 permitted daily tonnage is 500 tons.
- 13 The proposed permit includes allowing for the
- 14 operation of a new transfer station and processing
- 15 facility, defines the permitted area as ten acres.
- 16 It allows a permitted maximum tonnage of
- 17 non-hazardous MSW of 500 tons per day.
- 18 It allows permitted traffic volume of 131 one-way
- 19 vehicle trips per day.
- 20 Allows for the receipt of waste Monday through
- 21 Saturday from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with processing and
- 22 transferring of waste 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 23 The Fresno County LEA has provided a finding that
- 24 the proposed solid waste permit is consistent with and
- 25 supported by cited environmental document.

- 1 Board staff has determined that all of the
- 2 requirements for the proposed permit have been fulfilled.
- 3 And, therefore, Board staff recommends Option 1,
- 4 concurrence with the issuance of the proposed permit
- 5 submitted by the LEA and adoption of Resolution 2007-67.
- 6 Joseph Kalpakoff, Mid Valley Disposal's Director of
- 7 Operations, and Steve Crump and Randy Reyes, the Fresno
- 8 County LEA, are present today to answer any questions.
- 9 And this concludes Board staff's presentation.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Geri.
- 11 Do we have any questions?
- 12 Board Member Danzinger.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: When did this
- 14 project start? You know, when did it begin? This is a
- 15 brand spanking new facility. When did the whole process
- 16 to get this facility built and permitted begin?
- 17 MR. KALPAKOFF: Good morning, Chair, Committee
- 18 members. Joseph Kalpakoff, Vice President of Mid Valley
- 19 Disposal.
- 20 We started the permitting process probably around
- 21 a year ago to do the paperwork and the environmental. We
- 22 broke ground on the dirt around four weeks ago, moving
- 23 dirt and getting it graded. So it's not built yet.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: But the process of
- 25 getting to us started about a year ago.

- 1 MR. KALPAKOFF: Correct. Pretty quick.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: No. That is. You
- 3 know, it's a relatively modest size facility. And I was
- 4 just thinking it's instructive for us from time to time to
- 5 take a look at how long it takes to work the process on,
- 6 both from, you know, accelerating alternatives to
- 7 landfilling and identifying 15 years of disposal. So I
- 8 just wanted to peak my curiosity here.
- 9 One other question. What are the plans for the
- 10 green waste and C&D that's going to be coming on the site?
- 11 MR. KALPAKOFF: The green waste and the C&D will
- 12 be processed and hopefully to get over 50 percent
- 13 diversion with C&D. And the green waste will then be
- 14 ground up and taken to a composting facility.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Because you can't do
- 16 composting on this facility. That would be prohibited.
- 17 MR. KALPAKOFF: That's correct.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Any other questions?
- Do I have a motion?
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Move Resolution
- 22 2007-67.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And I will second that.
- Donnell, please call the roll.
- 25 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Member Danzinger?

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 2 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- 4 And we will put that one on consent as well.
- 5 And our last permit for the day.
- 6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Our last permit is
- 7 Consideration of a Revised Full Solid Waste Facilities
- 8 Permit for the Ramona Landfill in San Diego County. And
- 9 that will be presented by Tad Gebre-Hawariat.
- 10 MR. GEBRE-HAWARIAT: Good morning.
- 11 The proposed revised permit is to allow the
- 12 following:
- 13 Change in the landfill design capacity based on
- 14 better or improved calculations from 2.2 to a little over
- 15 3.1 million cubic yards.
- 16 Change the estimate of the landfill closure
- 17 period from 2006 to 2011.
- 18 And allow a change in the quantity of processed
- 19 green materials to be brought on site from the currently
- 20 allowed 15 tons per year to a maximum of 150 tons per day
- 21 and even a rolling seven-day average of 70 tons per day
- 22 with an on-site storage limit of 450 tons.
- 23 As we have indicated in the table of page 4-4 of
- 24 the revised agenda item, all of the requirements for the
- 25 revised permit have been met.

- 1 Therefore, staff recommends that the Board adopt
- 2 Resolution Number 2007-68 concurring with the issuance of
- 3 Solid Waste Facility Permit Number 37-AA-0005.
- 4 Ms. Rebecca Lafreniere and Ms. Pamela Raptis, the
- 5 LEA, and Mr. Neil Moore, the operator, are here to answer
- 6 any questions you may have.
- 7 This concludes my presentation.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Tad. And I see
- 9 Rebecca and Pam and Neil out in the audience. Thank you
- 10 all for being here today.
- 11 Do we have any questions for the operator or the
- 12 LEA?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I have none.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: None. Okay. Seeing no
- 15 questions, do I have a motion?
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I'll move Resolution
- 17 2007-68 revised.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I will second that.
- 19 And let's substitute the previous roll, and we
- 20 will put that item on consent as well.
- Okay. Our next item is Committee Item F.
- 22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam
- 23 Chair. We'll get the PowerPoint up for that.
- 24 This item is Consideration of a Grant Award for
- 25 the Solid Waste Disposal and Co-Disposal Site Cleanup

- 1 Program. The next three items are all related to our
- 2 various cleanup programs. This one is a grant. In each
- 3 one of these, you know, we will have some information from
- 4 Wes on the current status of the trust funds involved. So
- 5 I'll turn it over to Wes Mindermann for this presentation.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning.
- 7 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 8 presented as follows.)
- 9 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 10 MINDERMANN: Good Morning, Madam Chair, Committee Member
- 11 Danzinger, and Board Member Chesbro.
- 12 --000--
- 13 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 14 MINDERMANN: We have a very simple grant for you to
- 15 consider for approval this morning. The San Diego County
- 16 Department of Parks and Recreation has identified 23
- 17 illegal dumping sites in the Otay Valley Regional Park.
- 18 Since 2000, the Parks Department has had many organized
- 19 cleanup efforts removing over 1300 tons of solid waste
- 20 from the use of over 18,500 hours of volunteer labor.
- 21 This morning, the County is seeking \$360,000 in
- 22 grant funds to continue previous public and private
- 23 efforts to remove the last and most difficult to remove
- 24 debris from remote areas of the park. In addition, to
- 25 prevent future dumping, easily accessible locations will

- 1 be fenced off and "no dumping" signage will be installed
- 2 at each site at the conclusion of the clean up project.
- 3 The grant application for this project has been evaluated
- 4 and scored by staff, and we're recommending approval this
- 5 morning.
- --000--
- 7 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 8 MINDERMANN: With respect to impacts on the Solid Waste
- 9 Trust Fund which funds the Solid Waste Disposal and
- 10 Co-Disposal Cleanup Program, as you can see, our
- 11 unreserved balance as of the end of the calendar year was
- 12 a little over \$6 million. If the Board decides to approve
- 13 this project, the unreserved balance would be roughly
- 14 5,642,000.
- 15 That concludes my presentation. I'd be happy to
- 16 answer any questions.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Wes.
- 18 Do we have any questions on this site cleanup?
- 19 Board Member Danzinger.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: This is the Otay
- 21 Valley; right?
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Yes, this is.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I just wanted to be
- 24 clear I was reading this right. Wes, it reads as if the
- 25 illegal dumping was happening until about year 2000. And

- 1 since 2000, you've had this group of folks, this cadre of
- 2 folks, working to clean it up. Did the illegal dumping
- 3 largely stop at that point in time or has there still been
- 4 illegal dumping on the site since 2000?
- 5 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 6 MINDERMANN: We've discussed this with the grantee, and it
- 7 seems like the illegal dumping has subsided since the
- 8 formation of the regional park. That didn't happen around
- 9 2000. I'm not sure of the exact date. But since the
- 10 volunteer efforts and this regional park has come into
- 11 more public use and the public has accessed it more as a
- 12 park, the illegal dumping has subsided. It's staff's
- 13 opinion that the signage and fencing in the easily
- 14 accessible areas will further decrease the possibility of
- 15 further dumping.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Thanks.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Wes.
- 18 Okay. Do I have a motion?
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: You do. I'll move
- 20 Resolution 2007-69.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Second.
- Let's call the roll on this one.
- 23 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Member Danzinger?
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 25 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- We will put that item on fiscal consent. Thanks,
- 3 Wes.
- 4 Next item.
- 5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: The next is
- 6 Consideration of the New Projects for the Solid Waste
- 7 Disposal and Co-Disposal Cleanup Program. The last item
- 8 concerned a grant, which did take moneys from our
- 9 unreserved balance. This item concerns two potential
- 10 Board-managed cleanups, which would be done under our
- 11 existing contracts. So as Wes would show, there will be
- 12 no impact on the unreserved balance. These two sites are
- 13 two very exciting projects for the Board. And I'll just
- 14 turn it over to Wes to describe them further.
- 15 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 16 presented as follows.)
- 17 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 18 MINDERMANN: Again, as Howard described, this item is for
- 19 consideration of new Board-managed projects under the
- 20 Solid Waste Disposal and Co-Disposal Site Cleanup Program.
- 21 --000--
- 22 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 23 MINDERMANN: Before I move into the item, I thought it
- 24 would be helpful to give you an update as to what we're
- 25 doing on the Torres Martinez reservation, as one of these

- 1 sites is a site on the reservation.
- 2 The tribe is continuing their illegal dumping
- 3 reduction effort. I'll have a few slides following up on
- 4 a few of these things that consist of monitoring,
- 5 surveillance, and additional enforcement. With respect to
- 6 the Tayawa illegal disposal site, which was approved by
- 7 this Board -- and I think it was approved back in August
- 8 2006, which was a Board-managed project was completed on
- 9 September 18th, 2006. Our final costs were approximately
- 10 \$148,000. And we removed 548 tons of waste, debris, and
- 11 tires from two sites.
- 12 With respect to the Ibanez illegal disposal site
- 13 cleanup which was approved by the Board in November of
- 14 2006, we mobilized -- the Board's contractor mobilized on
- 15 the site in January of 2007. And we've been working for
- 16 about four weeks, and we estimate five weeks remain on
- 17 that project. And we're in the process of processing the
- 18 green waste and removing the solid waste from the site.
- 19 With respect to the AuClair dump site, which
- 20 we'll be discussing for consideration later on in the
- 21 agenda item, we're in the approval planning phase. And I
- 22 just wanted to make you aware as we had indicated earlier
- 23 there were many sites down on the Torres Martinez
- 24 reservations that we would be working with collaboratively
- 25 with the U.S. EPA Bureau of Indian Affairs and the tribal

- 1 government leaders to resolve.
- 2 One site that we recently visited on February was
- 3 the Lawson dump site, and we participated in a
- 4 multi-agency collaborative meeting. If you have any
- 5 questions on that, I'll turn it over to Scott. But to
- 6 move forward here a little bit.
- 7 --000--
- 8 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 9 MINDERMANN: Here is one of the signs that's been put up
- 10 by the tribe on the reservation to stop illegal dumping.
- 11 I actually called that number. It sends you to Crime
- 12 Stoppers where you can report illegal activities
- 13 anonymously. So seemed like it's very effective.
- 14 --00o--
- 15 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 16 MINDERMANN: Here is the update. These are pictures kind
- 17 of taken from afar. I didn't want to get too close
- 18 because of the operations down there. But here you can
- 19 see our work currently on the Ibanez illegal disposal site
- 20 which we took in late February. You can see the solid
- 21 waste is being staged for removal by bins and some of the
- 22 activities in the background.
- --000--
- 24 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 25 MINDERMANN: If you look here, buried in this mound of

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

- 1 processed debris waste you can see a tub grinder and
- 2 loader processing the green waste for spreading activities
- 3 later on in the project. So that kind of gives you an
- 4 update with respect to the Board's activities on the
- 5 Torres Martinez reservation.
- --000--
- 7 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 8 MINDERMANN: Moving into what we're going to consider
- 9 today, we've got two Board-managed projects. One is on
- 10 the Indian Island illegal disposal site where staff are
- 11 recommending a waiver from cost recovery, and the AuClair
- 12 dump site on the Torres Martinez Reservation which staff
- 13 will be recommending that we do pursue cost recovery on.
- 14 --00o--
- 15 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 16 MINDERMANN: Jumping into it, the Wiyot tribe is
- 17 conducting a cultural and environmental restoration on
- 18 approximately 80 contiguous acres on Indian Island in
- 19 Humboldt Bay, which encompasses the ethnographic Wiyot
- 20 Village of Tuluwat and surrounding salt marsh habitat.
- Over the past seven years, the tribe, with
- 22 volunteers from the community, removed the majority of
- 23 solid waste as part of the island's restoration. Despite
- 24 the voluntary cleanup and restoration efforts to date, the
- 25 tribe has been unable to clean up an old bulk head area on

- 1 a one-and-a-half acre parcel containing a former dry dock
- 2 ship repair facility site purchased by the tribe in 2000
- 3 and have requested assistance from the Board to complete
- 4 the cleanup.
- 5 Board staff have evaluated the site, and although
- 6 the cleanup is relatively small, it will be technically
- 7 very difficult due to the location of the site adjacent to
- 8 the open waters of Humboldt Bay. Our estimated cost is
- 9 \$40,000, and we are recommending the Board approve the
- 10 Board-managed cleanup of the site.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 13 MINDERMANN: As the tribe acquired the site for the public
- 14 benefit and will be opening the site to the public for
- 15 tours relating to its cultural and environmental history,
- 16 restoring a rare salt marsh habitat and protecting
- 17 sensitive cultural and archeological resources, cost
- 18 recovery is not being recommended against the tribe.
- 19 Staff have received support of this item from the
- 20 Wiyot tribe, the city of Eureka, and Senator Pat Wiggins,
- 21 and all have indicated as staff believe that this project
- 22 will not only benefit the Wiyot tribe, but also the
- 23 surrounding communities and public and cultural resources
- 24 of Humboldt Bay.
- 25 --000--

- 1 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 2 MINDERMANN: Moving on to the second project for the
- 3 Board's consideration, the AuClair dump site is
- 4 approximately 25 acres and is located on the Torres
- 5 Martinez Reservation allotment land. The heir to the
- 6 allotment, Mr. George AuClair, Jr., has been operating
- 7 this site as an illegal solid waste disposal site where
- 8 extensive and recurring open burning of solid and
- 9 hazardous waste has occurred.
- 10 On January 29th, 2007, the United States
- 11 Environmental Protection Agency and its contractors
- 12 mobilized to the site to perform Phase I of its removal
- 13 activities for hazardous materials. These activities
- 14 included constructing an earthen berm and trench barrier
- 15 around the site parameter to control site access and
- 16 prevent further illegal dumping, preparing chromated
- 17 copper arsenate treated wood for transportation and
- 18 disposal, and excavating chromated copper arsenate treated
- 19 wood burn ash and preparing it for transportation and
- 20 disposal.
- 21 The United States Environmental Protection
- 22 Agency's activities were completed in February 2007. To
- 23 assist in the ultimate cleanup and further assessment of
- 24 the site, the tribe and the United States Environmental
- 25 Protection Agency requested that the Board consider the

- 1 funding of the removal of the remaining solid waste at the
- 2 site that is outside the scope and jurisdiction of the
- 3 Environemental Protection Agency removal action.
- 4 --000--
- 5 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 6 MINDERMANN: Here's another picture of it as we go through
- 7 the presentation.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: That's better.
- 9 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 10 MINDERMANN: The Board's proposed remediation project
- 11 would be undertaken in partnership with the United States
- 12 Environmental Protection Agency's Emergency Response
- 13 Program. The U.S. EPA is currently in control of the site
- 14 and has agreed to retain control and take responsibility
- 15 for disposal of hazardous waste discovered during our
- 16 solid waste removal activities if approved by the Board.
- 17 Due to the size and scope of the project, the
- 18 United States Environmental Protection Agency and Board
- 19 actions --
- --000--
- 21 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 22 MINDERMANN: -- may not completely address the potential
- 23 residual contamination issues at the site with respect to
- 24 future land use. And an assessment will be conducted to
- 25 characterize the site after the solid waste removal

- 1 activities. The Torres Martinez Environmental Protection
- 2 Agency and the Bureau of Indian Affairs have approved this
- 3 course of action for the site. The U.S. EPA Bureau of
- 4 Indian Affairs and the tribe will assist with the project
- 5 to ensure restrictions on future site access. The Bureau
- 6 of Indian Affairs has committed to controlling potential
- 7 lease arrangements with the operators that could lead to
- 8 the recurrence of similar site conditions.
- 9 In addition, the tribe is committed to an ongoing
- 10 overall program to enhance illegal dumping prevention,
- 11 including outreach, education, enforcement, cleanup, and
- 12 infrastructure improvements. This program applies
- 13 specifically to this site and includes increased
- 14 monitoring and surveillance activities by the tribe and
- 15 other agencies. Staff have evaluated the site, and our
- 16 estimated costs if the Board were to approve it are \$1
- 17 million.
- 18 And we are recommending the Board approved the
- 19 Board-managed cleanup. Cost recovery against proposed
- 20 potential responsible parties will be pursued for the
- 21 proposed project to the extent practical.
- 22 Staff have received support from this item from
- 23 the United States Protection Agency, the Bureau of Indian
- 24 Affairs, the Torres Martinez desert Cahuilla tribe and the
- 25 Coachella Valley Association of Governments.

1 --000--

- 2 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 3 MINDERMANN: If the Board were to approve the two sites
- 4 for consideration on this item as indicated on the funding
- 5 strip in the agenda item, the impacts to the unencumbered
- 6 balance of the trust fund would be zero. That reason is
- 7 because the moneys that would be utilized are already
- 8 encumbered in our existing remediation contracts.
- 9 --000--
- 10 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 11 MINDERMANN: If you were to ask me today what our
- 12 remediation contract status is, as you can see, our Recon
- 13 contract, which is the one we utilize primarily for
- 14 southern California projects, if you were to approve it
- 15 would essentially utilize all of the remaining funds.
- 16 With respect to the Indian Island project, if the
- 17 Board were to approve it, our AJ Diani contract which is
- 18 for the northern California area would have approximately
- 19 \$2.71 million left in it.
- 20 One thing to consider with respect to the status
- 21 of the contract is that when we propose these contracts,
- 22 it was originally slated that \$1.75 million would be added
- 23 to the contracts for fiscal year 2007-2008 out of the
- 24 trust fund balance. So we would anticipate more moneys
- 25 becoming available for our southern California contract at

- 1 the beginning of the next fiscal year.
- 2 So that concludes our presentation. Staff are
- 3 recommending that the Board approve both the sites for
- 4 Board-managed cleanups with a specific waiver of cost
- 5 recovery for the Wiyot tribe on the Indian Island project.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Wes.
- 7 We do have a speaker. Do you have a question,
- 8 Board member?
- 9 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I was going to make a
- 10 comment, but if you'd like, I can wait until the speaker
- 11 is done.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you. Clancy Tenley from
- 13 U.S. EPA. Thank you for being here. Appreciate you
- 14 making the trip.
- 15 MR. TENLEY: Thank you very much, Chair Mulé.
- 16 And thank you to the rest of the Board members and the
- 17 staff. My name is Clancy Tenley. I'm EPA Associate
- 18 Director for Tribal Programs in our San Francisco office.
- 19 I'd like to speak in favor of both the Wiyot project and
- 20 the Torres Martinez project today.
- 21 I'd like to start by thanking the Board for your
- 22 work at the Torres Martinez Reservation already. And I'd
- 23 like to especially thank Scott Walker, Wes Mindermann, and
- 24 Brad Williams for the hard work you're doing out there
- 25 every day. It's getting hot on the reservation. It's

- 1 starting to get hot, and there's a lot of work left to do.
- 2 On behalf of the Torres Martinez Solid Waste
- 3 Collaborative, we'd like to thank the Board for your very
- 4 significant participation in this effort.
- 5 I was out at the reservation last week and went
- 6 to the Ibanez site, spoke with Brad Williams, and saw the
- 7 work you're doing there. And I can tell you, it's a very
- 8 impressive display of the Board's capability what's going
- 9 on at the Ibanez site with the earth moving equipment, the
- 10 tub grinding, and the vast amount of material you're
- 11 moving right now. Your work there has secured the site,
- 12 so no one can add to dumping and it will be very soon that
- 13 that site will be able to be leased by the Bureau of
- 14 Indian Affairs and put to productive use.
- 15 I'd like to give you a very short update on the
- 16 work of the overall collaborative effort on the Torres
- 17 Martinez Reservation. As you know, last April we formed
- 18 the collaborative with 25 State, local, and federal and
- 19 tribal agencies to stop dumping on the Torres Martinez
- 20 Reservation. And to date, we've seen considerable
- 21 progress. We've closed the three largest dumps on the
- 22 reservation and stopped access to those sites. We've
- 23 cleaned up or installed access controls to half of the 20
- 24 smaller dumps on the reservation already. EPA has issued
- 25 enforcement actions against five of the dump operators.

- 1 And this is very significant use of our enforcement
- 2 authorities which we have rarely ever been used at a solid
- 3 waste facility. In fact, we have used a new enforcement
- 4 authority not done before in the United States at this
- 5 reservation due to the priority of this effort for us.
- 6 Riverside County Sheriff has stopped trucks going
- 7 into the reservation. They've done roadside stops. And
- 8 the CHP has been doing flyovers of the reservation.
- 9 California Air Resources Board is next week meeting with
- 10 the tribe to install two hidden surveillance cameras on
- 11 the reservation. And the tribe has constructed several
- 12 billboards like those you saw in the slide and has
- 13 participated in our overall very aggressive outreach
- 14 campaign. It's really being heard between Palm Springs
- 15 and the Salton Sea.
- In the year that this collaborative has been in
- 17 operation, it's been credited by the Riverside County
- 18 Sheriff as making more progress in this one year than has
- 19 been made in the past ten years in stopping dumping in
- 20 Riverside County. So, again, I would like to congratulate
- 21 the Board for your work on this reservation and the great
- 22 difference you're making to the people of Riverside
- 23 County.
- I'd like to speak to the George AuClair cleanup.
- 25 As Wes said, in January, EPA conducted on-seen removal at

- 1 the site to remove the imminent threat from the burning of
- 2 grape stakes. There was ash from the burning of CCA grape
- 3 stakes on the George AuClair property that created
- 4 hazardous waste that could blow, and it was affecting the
- 5 immediate residents near the property.
- 6 We have now completed that, removed the most
- 7 imminent threat. Our SuperFund staff has also agreed to
- 8 stay on the site through the duration of the Board cleanup
- 9 to give legal access to the sheriff to keep -- there have
- 10 been squatters on the site, and we need to keep the
- 11 squatters off during you cleanup. And the EPA's continued
- 12 presence on the site will give you legal access to do
- 13 that.
- 14 Completion of your clean up at this site will get
- 15 as close to the point of allowing the Bureau of Indian
- 16 Affairs to lease the site for productive use as the
- 17 surrounding land is leased which will prevent further
- 18 misuse of the land.
- In sum, I'd like to thank the Board for your
- 20 contributions to the site on the reservation and invite
- 21 you to attend our March 20th public progress report. As
- 22 you know, August 20th, we provide a public event at the
- 23 reservation. This is a little bit lower-key event. It's
- 24 a public progress report. And then we also anticipate
- 25 another meeting on the reservation, a public meeting, next

- 1 October. And we'd like to invite you to attend that as
- 2 well.
- 3 I'd also like to speak in favor of the cleanup of
- 4 the Wiyot Reservation. Indian Island is actually a very
- 5 important area for the Wiyot people. It was the site of a
- 6 very infamous event in the late 1800s. It was a massacre
- 7 of Indian people for about 100 years. Well over 100
- 8 years. The tribe worked to regain control of the site of
- 9 the island and has done so seven years ago. And in those
- 10 seven years, they've been working with others to clean up
- 11 the site. There have been quite a bit of misuse of the
- 12 land.
- In those seven years, they've received over \$1.6
- 14 million in funding due to their hard work from private
- 15 contributors, the Coastal Conservancy, the National Park
- 16 Service, EPA's Brownsfields Program, and U.S. Fish and
- 17 Wildlife Service. That plus thousands of hours of
- 18 community labor have made a big difference there. And the
- 19 work that Wes described is still needed. It's work they
- 20 can't complete without your assistance.
- 21 Again, this demonstrates your partnership in
- 22 working with other agencies and with tribes in California
- 23 to make a huge difference. I would like to thank you for
- 24 your consideration of this effort, and I'd be happy to
- 25 answer any questions that you may have.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Great summary. Thank you,
- 2 Clancy. I appreciate that.
- 3 Board Member Chesbro.
- 4 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Well, I don't have a
- 5 specific question. Well, I want to echo the description
- 6 of the Indian Island project. The staff did a good job of
- 7 touching on some of the significance, but I wanted to fill
- 8 in a little bit more. And some of it was filled in by the
- 9 gentleman from U.S. EPA.
- 10 But this has a very important historic and
- 11 cultural significance in addition to the environmental
- 12 benefit, which the Board normally is responsible for. It
- 13 was the site of one of California's great tragedies in
- 14 terms of the dominant society's genocide against Native
- 15 Americans in this state. Amazingly, survivors of that
- 16 tribe have regrouped and grown and prospered and have done
- 17 I think quite well, relatively speaking, and are very
- 18 active participants. The tribe is a very active
- 19 participant in Humboldt County economically and
- 20 politically.
- 21 What's really unique I think -- and I've been
- 22 personally part of this -- is that they have appealed to
- 23 the rest of the community to join them in partnership in
- 24 restoring this island both for their own ceremonial
- 25 purposes because it was the site of their most important

- 1 annual ceremony. That's actually what was going on at the
- 2 time of the massacre. But also to give the community a
- 3 chance to be part of that healing by participating in the
- 4 restoration. So it's a great partnership both between the
- 5 local governments, the city of Eureka particularly, and
- 6 also State agencies, the Coastal Conservancy that's
- 7 involved in funding restoration studies and restoration
- 8 work. And it's great to have the Board participating in
- 9 this process, because I think the tribe has offered the
- 10 community and the people and the state of California an
- 11 opportunity to really do some restorative justice
- 12 literally by helping to restore the cultural, historic,
- 13 and environmental attributes of this island.
- 14 And I'm pleased as one Board member, not as a
- 15 Committee member. I'll have to wait until next week to
- 16 get my chance to vote for it. But as one Board member to
- 17 be able to lend my support to this. It's a very exciting
- 18 project.
- 19 I'm going to be up there this Friday presenting
- 20 one of our WRAP awards and have offered to Board members
- 21 and advisors -- I understand everybody is busy and it's a
- 22 big state and it's hard to get to Eureka. We're planning
- 23 tentatively, as the details haven't been worked out, a
- 24 visit to the island. So anybody who can come or who wants
- 25 to send along an advisor to get a chance to see it

- 1 firsthand and perhaps talk with a representative of the
- 2 tribe, we certainly welcome that. Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Member Chesbro.
- 4 That is quite an education that I just got on that site.
- 5 And, you know, I had read it in the item, but you really
- 6 expanded on that. Thank you for the invitation.
- 7 Any other questions or comments, Board Member
- 8 Danzinger?
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Well, first, thanks
- 10 for those comments. Because what I knew was what I read
- 11 in the item. And I thought this was a good deal even
- 12 without all of those benefits. But with it, I think this
- 13 is great. I'm very happy and proud to be a part of this.
- 14 So I'm very supportive of that.
- On the AuClair, that is a mess. And, I mean,
- 16 that photo earlier I was trying to look for Kurt Russell
- 17 in the shot, because I thought it was a movie still from
- 18 Escape from New York.
- 19 Educate me, Clancy, on this. I'm trying to
- 20 figure out this whole allotted land issue. Because, you
- 21 know, I'd like to think this question I'm asking here is
- 22 rendered obsolete, because it's not going to happen again.
- 23 But how this happened, you know. I mean, how was he able
- 24 to do this? Because I know that your organization has
- 25 determined that it's not a tribal facility, that the tribe

- 1 is not a priority or non-proprietary party to it all or an
- 2 interest in it. And yet, he gets this land, this
- 3 allotment of land on the reservation and is able to
- 4 apparently for years, you know, conduct this illegal
- 5 dumping operation. How does he get the allotment? How
- 6 does somebody get the allotment? Because I mentioned
- 7 earlier or somebody mentioned earlier that maybe BIA and
- 8 U.S. EPA working together on reassessing the rules or the
- 9 guidelines that govern allotments, you know, how allottees
- 10 are granted and, you know, what rules they have to follow.
- 11 How does that happen and how does that play into this?
- 12 MR. TENLEY: Thank you for asking that. That is
- 13 a very basic question, a very sensible question. When you
- 14 look at this land when you go down and visit the site, you
- 15 say, how can this happen? And I think what it is it's a
- 16 legacy of the allotment system. The allotment system
- 17 started in the mid 20th century in the United States where
- 18 the United States government decided to take and provide
- 19 land to tribal members to try to assimilate them into the
- 20 U.S. population as a whole, as farmers. Give everybody
- 21 100 acres and let them farm.
- The allotment system is widely considered to be a
- 23 failure. A lot of the land was lost throughout the years.
- 24 And in addition, it became fractionated. As people have
- 25 children from generation to generation, you no longer have

- 1 one person in control of a property. You may have dozens
- 2 or potentially hundreds of people in control of a
- 3 property, and many of the people don't reside on the
- 4 property. So the ability of the allotment owner to retain
- 5 productive use and control of allotments is greatly
- 6 diminished and lost.
- 7 It has exceeded I believe the ability of the
- 8 Bureau of Indian Affairs and the tribes that are involved
- 9 to completely take care of each one of those allotments
- 10 across the United States. This is not just in California.
- 11 There's allotments all over the U.S. The Torres Martinez
- 12 tribe itself only got a constitution in the late '80s and
- 13 has begun a system of government and codes and ordinances
- 14 to protect themselves from this type of activity in last
- 15 few years with the assistance of EPA and the environmental
- 16 grants.
- 17 So it has been a very difficult and challenging
- 18 system. And until last year, the Bureau of Indian Affairs
- 19 was attempting to work alone with the tribe or EPA would
- 20 work alone with the tribe, and that wasn't working. And
- 21 that's what created this mess. And what has worked since
- 22 then is this partnership with 25 agencies where we're all
- 23 coming together and putting all the resources we can
- 24 possibly come to bear on a situation.
- 25 So you're quite correct. It is a failure, the

- 1 previous system. But we feel very strongly that the work
- 2 we have in progress now with the partnership of the Board
- 3 is going to address that.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I know that we'll -- I guess
- 5 we will pursue some degree of cost recovery from AuClair.
- 6 Is there other action being taken against AuClair on the
- 7 part of like BIA or EPA or --
- 8 MR. TENLEY: We have an enforcement action
- 9 against George AuClair through EPA both through CERCLA and
- 10 our RCRA Program, our hazardous waste program. And we, of
- 11 course, will follow any recovery of costs and penalties
- 12 that we possibly can. But there may be issues with
- 13 resources that are available. But we will be in there too
- 14 for quite a while.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: This guy is a
- 16 villain. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Again, Clancy, thank you for
- 18 being here.
- 19 I had the opportunity to attend the October 20th
- 20 collaborative meeting. And I can share the success of the
- 21 collaborative in terms of getting federal, State, and
- 22 local agencies working together to address this issue. We
- 23 had Riverside County Supervisors there. We had the
- 24 sheriff's department, the fire department, everybody, the
- 25 Waste Board. At the State level, DTSC, U.S. EPA was

- 1 there. We're really trying to address this on a
- 2 comprehensive basis. Because as Clancy had mentioned, if
- 3 one agency tries to address it, we're just not being
- 4 effective. So everybody working together I really think
- 5 that we're finally addressing the significant issue of
- 6 illegal dumping in Riverside County, which I know very
- 7 well. So thank you again for being here. Really
- 8 appreciate it.
- 9 Any other questions, comments? Do I have a
- 10 motion?
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Yes. I'll move
- 12 Resolution 2007-70.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I will second that. And
- 14 Donnell, would you please call the roll?
- 15 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Member Danzinger?
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 17 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- 19 We'll put that item on fiscal consent as well.
- 20 Thank you again, appreciate it. Thanks, Wes.
- 21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Madam Chair, if I can
- 22 follow up on that item. Just in terms of timing for those
- 23 projects, since we're working on the Ibanez project, the
- 24 Torres Martinez, and that might take another five weeks or
- 25 so, once that's completed, we would then mobilize for the

- 1 cleanup of the AuClair site down there, timing it to be
- 2 100 days out probably.
- 3 With the Wiyot tribe, Wes anticipates it will
- 4 take a couple of months. We still have some local
- 5 permitting issues too get through before we're able to
- 6 mobilize. So hopefully we'll have that completed sometime
- 7 this summer. But that time line is a little less certain.
- 8 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Madam Chair, even though I
- 9 think it's logical for it to be on consent, I would
- 10 encourage the Executive Director in his report to maybe
- 11 mention it. And I'd like to have the chance very briefly
- 12 at the Board meeting to let the Board members know the
- 13 significance that I talked about.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I would appreciate you sharing
- 15 that information.
- 16 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I don't think we need to
- 17 have a full discussion on it. But I think the Board
- 18 members would appreciate to know what they've been given
- 19 the opportunity to be part of.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I agree. And because it is on
- 21 fiscal consent, we will have a brief presentation. But
- 22 again, I agree with you, Member Chesbro.
- 23 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: If there will be a brief
- 24 presentation, that satisfies my concern.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: But I would welcome the

- 1 opportunity for you to share your comments with the rest
- 2 of the Board. So thank you very much.
- 3 Okay. Howard, our next item is Committee Item H.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you. This is
- 5 the last of our cleanup items. This is Consideration of
- 6 the Grant Awards for the Farm and Ranch Solid Waste
- 7 Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program. That will be
- 8 presented by Carla Repucci.
- 9 MS. REPUCCI: Good morning. Item H is for the
- 10 Consideration of three Applications for Farm and Ranch
- 11 Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grants. The amount
- 12 requested in these applications being brought before you
- 13 today is \$210,566 and represent the third award of this
- 14 fiscal year.
- 15 The Farm and Ranch Grant Program began in 1999
- 16 and provides up to one million dollars each year to
- 17 federally-recognized tribes, resource conservation
- 18 districts, and local governments to clean up illegal
- 19 disposal sites on farm and ranch property. Applicants may
- 20 request up to \$50,000 per site and 200,000 per fiscal
- 21 year. There is \$693,024 remaining in the fund for this
- 22 fiscal year.
- 23 Three applications were received this quarter
- 24 requesting the clean up of ten sites. The applications
- 25 were reviewed for eligibility, scored, and all ten sites

- 1 are being recommended for approval today. Approval of
- 2 these applications as recommended would leave \$482,458 in
- 3 the fund. The sites being requested for clean up are in
- 4 the counties of San Diego, Yolo, and Solano.
- 5 Removal of the waste will restore the properties
- 6 back to their natural state and remove the threat to
- 7 public health and safety and the environment. Each
- 8 applicant indicated efforts to prevent waste from being
- 9 redeposited. The efforts include fencing, earthen berms,
- 10 hedge rows, gates, the posting of signs, and increased
- 11 surveillance.
- 12 Agenda Item H is for the consideration of three
- 13 grant applications for Farm and Ranch Cleanup and
- 14 Abatement Grants. Each application meets the eligibility
- 15 requirement set forth by the statue. Therefore, the staff
- 16 recommends the Board adopt Resolution 2007-71 authorizing
- 17 the award of up to \$210,566 for the grant applications
- 18 from the Solano and Dixon Resource Conservation Districts
- 19 and the county of San Diego and directing staff to develop
- 20 and institute grant agreements. I would be happy to
- 21 answer any questions.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Carla.
- 23 Any questions for Carla?
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: No. You know, on
- 25 the Dixon one, this reads sort of like that one from the

- 1 last item. I was curious about it was fenced and gated in
- 2 2004. So this is just to clean up what was there
- 3 beforehand because there's been no illegal dumping since.
- 4 It's no longer vulnerable as an illegal dumping site?
- 5 MS. REPUCCI: Correct. It was an historic dump
- 6 site, so it's been there for many, many years.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Do I have a motion?
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I move Resolution
- 9 2007-71.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Second.
- Donnell, please call the roll.
- 12 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Member Danzinger?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 14 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- 16 We'll put that one on fiscal consent.
- 17 I think what we're going to do is take a
- 18 five-minute break and then resume with our final two
- 19 items. Thank you.
- 20 (Thereupon a recess was taken.)
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning. Let's finish up
- 22 here with our last two items. Howard, we have Committee
- 23 Item I.
- 24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: This is a Discussion
- 25 and Request for Rulemaking Direction to Notice for a

- 1 45-Day Comment Period Proposed Regulations on Postclosure
- 2 Maintenance and Financial Assurance Demonstrations for
- 3 Landfills.
- 4 This first few items we ran the table and I have
- 5 been pretty successful in not having to say much, but I
- 6 thought I would introduce this item. Hopefully we'll have
- 7 an interesting discussion on this one.
- 8 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 9 presented as follows.)
- 10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: The purpose of this
- 11 item -- and before I get going, to my right is Richard
- 12 Castle who will make the main presentation, and Garth
- 13 Adams. I want to thank both these gentlemen, along with
- 14 Mike Wochnick and Scott Walker and Steve Levine and others
- 15 who have helped on this endeavor.
- 16 The purpose of this item is to request the
- 17 Committee's direction to implement a rulemaking on a suite
- 18 of issues related to cost estimates for postclosure
- 19 maintenance, financial assurance mechanisms for
- 20 postclosure maintenance, and corrective action plans.
- 21 Specifically, how can the Board improve its existing cost
- 22 estimating and financial assurance regulations based on
- 23 direction from AB 2296, and also based on experiences that
- 24 we've had with the BKK Class III Landfill and other
- 25 situations in the past. Also, whether and how the Board

- 1 should require financial assurance demonstrations for
- 2 postclosure maintenance beyond 30 years, the first 30
- 3 years of postclosure maintenance, and additionally require
- 4 plans and financial assurances for corrective action plans
- 5 actions at landfills.
- 6 This item is based on prior Board direction that
- 7 we received in July of 2006, subsequent legislation which
- 8 is AB 2296 enacted and signed in September of 2006, and
- 9 stakeholder comments at informal workshops.
- 10 As you know, the issue is what financial
- 11 assurances will be required for more than 30 years of
- 12 postclosure maintenance and how to address corrective
- 13 actions that are not now covered by Board regulations has
- 14 received much attention. We've as a staff and the Board
- 15 at the Committee and Board level have had workshops and
- 16 working group meetings on this since late 2003. And I do
- 17 want to acknowledge all those folks that I mentioned along
- 18 with Bernie as well.
- 19 Nationally, this is an item that's been discussed
- 20 by U.S. EPA for years. It's been a topic at some of the
- 21 solid waste conferences that involve State and territorial
- 22 managers. The Legislative Analyst's Office issued a
- 23 report in April of 2006 on this topic. And then in the
- 24 fiscal year 2006-2007 Budget Act, we were requested to do
- 25 a supplemental budget report on what actions the Board was

- 1 taking in this area, which we submitted in January.
- 2 As I mentioned, we had Board direction in July of
- 3 last year. And then AB 2296 was signed last fall. So
- 4 there's been a lot of focus on this issue of what happens
- 5 after 30 years and what should be encompassed in any kind
- 6 of rulemaking or statutory look at that issue.
- 7 But at the same time, and independent of this
- 8 whole long-term issue, over the last few years we've
- 9 experienced a number of problems or issues related to our
- 10 existing financial assurance and cost estimating
- 11 requirements for closure and postclosure maintenance.
- 12 Some of these are related to rapidly increasing costs of
- 13 materials and of construction for closure and postclosure
- 14 maintenance, such that approved cost estimates and the
- 15 associated financial assurance demonstrations in some
- 16 cases have become inadequate for what is actually required
- 17 at a site.
- 18 At the same time, we've been trying to get
- 19 certified closure at the BKK Landfill. And although
- 20 that's not quite closed, so it's a little bit of a
- 21 different beast, we've learned a lot of lessons there
- 22 about closure and postclosure maintenance plans and
- 23 existing financial assurance demonstrations for the first
- 24 30 years of postclosure maintenance. So there's a suite
- 25 of issues on the table here.

- 1 Now I'd like to reflect on what happened in July
- 2 and then what happened in the fall with AB 2296. In July,
- 3 the Committee directed staff to initiate a rulemaking that
- 4 would clarify that financial assurance mechanisms
- 5 requirements for postclosure maintenance are for more than
- 6 30 years. We were asked to address the suite of cost
- 7 estimate issues and to draft provisions that would require
- 8 corrective action plans.
- 9 The Committee also directed us to begin a study
- 10 of long-term threats and financial assurance mechanisms
- 11 that would deal with longer term postclosure maintenance
- 12 and with corrective actions at landfills. This would
- 13 include but not be limited to options such as a statewide
- 14 pooled fund and variations on that or insurance coverage
- 15 based on potential corrective action risk posed by
- 16 individual landfills.
- 17 This direction in July deferred the actual
- 18 requirement for financial assurance demonstrations for
- 19 corrective actions until after the results of that study.
- 20 Staff developed an informal draft of this rulemaking and
- 21 held a workshop with stakeholders in November, and we
- 22 received numerous comments on that. At the same time, the
- 23 Legislature was discussing AB 2296, specifically the issue
- 24 of financial assurance mechanisms for greater than 30
- 25 years of postclosure maintenance and of corrective action

- 1 plan and financial assurance requirements.
- The Governor signed AB 2296, author,
- 3 Assemblywoman Montaez, in September, and AB 2296 would
- 4 require the Board to do three things:
- 5 One is to adopt regulations by January 1st of
- 6 2008 that address existing cost estimate issues. Those
- 7 would include cost overruns, providing for reasonable
- 8 contingencies, and basing estimates on reasonably
- 9 foreseeable costs the State would have to incur if we took
- 10 over the responsibility for those activities.
- 11 Secondly, to conduct a study by January 1st,
- 12 2008, much the same as the study the Board directed us to
- 13 pursue. That would define conditions that potentially
- 14 affect landfills in order to identify potential long-term
- 15 threats and to address financial assurance mechanisms that
- 16 would protect the State from long-term postclosure
- 17 maintenance or corrective action costs.
- 18 And thirdly, to adopt regulations and develop
- 19 recommendations for needed legislation to implement the
- 20 findings of that study by July 1st of 2009.
- 21 --000--
- 22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: So AB 2296 differed
- 23 from the Committee's July direction primarily in two ways.
- 24 One is it addressed some but not all of the existing cost
- 25 estimates issues that we have uncovered over the years.

- 1 But more importantly, it deferred the issues of financial
- 2 assurance requirements for beyond 30 years and the
- 3 corrective action plans from the first rulemaking instead
- 4 deferred them to the second rulemaking, which is required
- 5 to be completed by July of 2009.
- 6 Before I turn it over to Richard, just want to
- 7 note that in September and November staff sought and
- 8 received Board approval for the study on long-term threats
- 9 and financial assurance mechanisms. The Request for
- 10 Proposals for that was released last month. They are due
- 11 March 19th, and we anticipate coming back to the Committee
- 12 with the award of that contract hopefully in April.
- 13 So with that, I'll turn it over to Richard
- 14 Castle.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: We have a question.
- 16 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I voted on it, so I should
- 17 know the answer to this. But did AB 2296 explicitly
- 18 prohibit the Board -- I'm thinking about the two options
- 19 you put before the Committee and the Board. Did it
- 20 explicitly prohibit the Board from exercising Option 2 and
- 21 going ahead with regulations on financial assurance, or
- 22 did it just lay out another direction in terms of the
- 23 study?
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: No. You're correct.
- 25 It did not specifically prohibit us. And in fact, it

- 1 required us to do two rulemakings; one by January of 2008,
- 2 which is what this item is really about, is what should
- 3 that rulemaking encompass. That would cover at a minimum
- 4 some of the cost estimate issues, prevailing wages and
- 5 contingencies and other issues like that. Then to go
- 6 ahead and conduct the study, come back with the results of
- 7 that, and do a second rulemaking later.
- 8 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: But on the financial
- 9 assurance.
- 10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Financial assurance
- 11 mechanisms for longer-term postclosure maintenance and
- 12 corrective action.
- BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: That's the part I'm
- 14 specifically asking about relative to the legislation
- 15 prohibited the Board from proceeding with that portion
- 16 with it until the study.
- 17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: My read of this -- and
- 18 perhaps we need to turn to Legal. My read of this did not
- 19 specifically prohibit us from pursuing those. But there
- 20 were provisions in the earlier drafts of the legislation
- 21 that spoke to those issues that then were deleted in the
- 22 final version that was enacted and signed by the Governor.
- BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Continue, Richard.
- 25 --000--

- 1 MR. CASTLE: Good morning. My name is Richard
- 2 Castle, and I'm in the Financial Assurances Section at the
- 3 Board. And we've seen a lot of this in the past, but we
- 4 want to make sure everybody has a good picture of where we
- 5 are at today and why we're asking to go forward with the
- 6 regulation package.
- 7 In general, I'd like to make the statement again
- 8 that the operators are responsible for postclosure
- 9 maintenance until there's no longer a threat at the site.
- 10 Nobody's had discussion against that in the meetings. The
- 11 question is about the money. And the regulations
- 12 specifically only require at this time financial
- 13 demonstration for 30 years of postclosure maintenance.
- 14 We know that with continued maintenance at the
- 15 site though that it's not going to just end at the end of
- 16 30 years. When we first started this process, we looked
- 17 in the inventory of how many facilities we're talking
- 18 about. We have 282 landfills that are under the financial
- 19 assurances regulatory authority of the Board.
- 20 --00o--
- 21 MR. CASTLE: Of those 282, there's 116 landfills
- 22 that are already in postclosure maintenance. In looking
- 23 at the costs, we laid out a model -- very basic model of
- 24 what the current postclosure maintenance estimates are.
- 25 And we came to a present value determination for a current

- 1 cost estimate. So we inflated the cost, but we also added
- 2 in inflation to them. But we didn't consider any of those
- 3 outlined costs that were beyond just what's in the plan
- 4 for the routine maintenance of the facility.
- 5 With just the routine maintenance of the facility
- 6 though, what we have with those 116 landfills already in
- 7 postclosure maintenance is by the year 2021, the first
- 8 landfill that closed under the Board's regulations will
- 9 have already exhausted its required financial assurance
- 10 demonstration. By the year 2040, all 116 currently closed
- 11 facilities will have exhausted their financial assurance
- 12 demonstration.
- 13 What that gets us to is that those 116 sites by
- 14 the year 2040 will have a \$150 million exposure that is
- 15 not assured to the State. What's significant in that
- 16 number also is 85 percent of those sites are publicly
- 17 owned, publicly operated facilities. By the year 2054,
- 18 the unfunded postclosure maintenance costs for all these
- 19 sites is more than 600 million. And at this point, we've
- 20 closed a few more privately-owned facilities. And 77
- 21 percent of the costs are still going to be from the
- 22 public.
- --000--
- 24 MR. CASTLE: A nice little graph we used way back
- 25 when when we started this process is putting those numbers

- 1 that we just talked about here. And the red is what is
- 2 assured. The blue is those continuing expenses that are
- 3 not assured to the State.
- 4 --000--
- 5 MR. CASTLE: The unfunded costs only represent
- 6 regular and expected annual postclosure costs. What we're
- 7 not seeing and we would have a difficult time putting into
- 8 a plan like this would be the earthquakes, floods or
- 9 flooding rains. These aren't representative in these
- 10 costs. And we're expecting that that would be considered
- 11 a corrective action anyway. So we're only talking when
- 12 we're talking these numbers right here about normal
- 13 postclosure maintenance expenses. Also not represented
- 14 are the repair and replacement costs for the major
- 15 environmental control systems at the site. So if there's
- 16 a -- equipment wears out eventually. And those extended
- 17 long-term costs are not represented in the cost estimates.
- 18 --000--
- 19 MR. CASTLE: The postclosure maintenance cost
- 20 estimates for items that occurred less than annually
- 21 should be pro rated to an annual cost. In this way, we
- 22 can get an average what the closure branch likes to call
- 23 an annualized cost of the estimate so we can multiply that
- 24 by our current multiplier of 30 so that we have a
- 25 representation not of the process of making the operator

- 1 go through a postclosure maintenance plan of specifically
- 2 identifying in year three I'm going to do this and in year
- 3 seven I'm going to do that and add them up. But to have
- 4 those items in there, know they have a life expectancy
- 5 that's greater than a year, but then average them back to
- 6 a year. And the cost estimates also should include any
- 7 maintenance and replacement for the entire postclosure
- 8 maintenance period.
- 9 This entire postclosure maintenance period is not
- 10 30 years. It's until there's no longer a threat. So this
- 11 is going to be -- could be a difficult item for the
- 12 operators to calculate. But again, there's a life
- 13 expectancy of equipment at a facility. And those can be
- 14 used in making this calculation.
- 15 Cost for closure/postclosure should be based on
- 16 third-party cost estimates. This is represented in -- so
- 17 after the State has to take over the site and the
- 18 maintenance of the facility, we are capable of hiring a
- 19 contractor to go out and take care of that. Specifically
- 20 identified here is the prevailing wages, and this is an
- 21 item that's specifically listed also in AB 2296. So
- 22 that's where we are dovetailing very well obviously
- 23 working at the same time.
- 24 Postclosure cost estimates should include a
- 25 contingency similar to the current closure plan cost

- 1 estimates. AB 2296 tells us to get a reasonable
- 2 contingency, the Board has used 20 percent as a
- 3 contingency for closure throughout the history of the
- 4 regulations for financial assurances. Staff at this time
- 5 are proposing that that same 20 percent be the reasonable
- 6 contingency for the postclosure maintenance cost
- 7 estimates.
- 8 We've recently had a number of facilities that
- 9 the approved costs when they get ready to close are
- 10 significantly less than what the actual bids are coming in
- 11 for the operator to close the sites. We're concerned that
- 12 the same process is going to -- or the same failure of the
- 13 estimate is going to happen in the postclosure maintenance
- 14 in performing not necessarily the very mundane routine
- 15 maintenance, but they begin to replace equipment that was
- 16 estimated while the facility was operating. And now
- 17 they're in postclosure maintenance, maybe 15 years into
- 18 the maintenance, and they have to replace some items
- 19 without having a reasonable contingency on that cost
- 20 estimate that was funded for during the operation. We may
- 21 be significantly short for an assurance for the
- 22 replacement cost for that item.
- --000--
- 24 MR. CASTLE: As far as the BKK issues that are
- 25 represented in the draft regulation process, we found

- 1 through the process with the continued closure of BKK
- 2 Landfill that we need some stronger oversight on the
- 3 Board's part in the process of closure and postclosure
- 4 maintenance plan than the submittal and looking at them a
- 5 little bit closer to make sure all the pieces are there
- 6 and all the costs are covered.
- 7 We need to clarify some assurance issues.
- 8 Assurance has become popular with a few operators and is a
- 9 financial arrangement. And the problem the Board has
- 10 is -- and specifically with the BKK facility is that the
- 11 insurance companies are there to make money, not to save
- 2 the world. The Board's role is to make sure there's an
- 13 assurance that the process will continue. And we get into
- 14 the negotiation process with an insurance company when it
- 15 becomes time to collect the money for that closure process
- 16 or the postclosure maintenance process. And assurance is
- 17 specifically a different financial demonstration than the
- 18 others, because the operators are using that money
- 19 directly. It's not just an assurance to the Board. The
- 20 insurance policy is set up so that the operator can draw
- 21 the money from that insurance company and perform the
- 22 closure and perform postclosure maintenance. So there's
- 23 some items that came up that we need to strengthen. We've
- 24 got that in the -- hopefully, we have that solved this
- 25 time in this regulation package.

- 1 And we already update costs for postclosure
- 2 maintenance on a periodic basis. The regs clarify that a
- 3 little bit more that it's going to be updated with
- 4 recalculations of the estimates, not just inflation
- 5 estimates. The inflation is the in-between the submittals
- 6 of the plans.
- 7 --000--
- 8 MR. CASTLE: I don't want to read through this
- 9 entire thing, but that's the listing of the workshops that
- 10 we've had since November of 2003 and a brief listing of
- 11 the comments, the process that we've been going through,
- 12 the postclosure maintenance. We've discussed how it's
- 13 currently implemented and where we envision this process
- 14 going. And that the biggest one is that the current
- 15 financial demonstrations that are provided to the State
- 16 again are only for the 30-year demonstration.
- 17 If we can remember back, we have 85 percent of
- 18 the facilities that are going to be government operated
- 19 closed sites that are going to be out of postclosure
- 20 maintenance financial demonstrations. The majority of the
- 21 public operators are providing a pledge of revenue
- 22 agreement when they've identified an annual stream of
- 23 money that will take care of their expenses.
- 24 If we were to amend the regulations to say that
- 25 the financial assurance demonstration has to survive

- 1 throughout postclosure maintenance, we can work with them
- 2 to make sure that they amend their agreements to survive
- 3 beyond 30 years. It's not a 30-year pot of money. It's
- 4 an annual source of money that right now is only required
- 5 to be there for 30 years.
- 6 That's just one example of a relatively easy fix
- 7 for all of this.
- 8 --000--
- 9 MR. CASTLE: As Howard identified during his
- 10 presentation during July, the Board directed staff to
- 11 initiate the rulemaking, clarified the financial
- 12 requirements for postclosure are for more than 30 years,
- 13 addressed cost estimate issues and required corrective
- 14 action plans, and to begin the process of the study.
- 15 And we have done all that. And when we went to
- 16 the workshop in November that we set up so we can discuss
- 17 these draft regulations, we did receive a number of
- 18 comments at the workshop because in the interim AB 2296
- 19 had been signed. So there was a direction from AB 2296
- 20 that was somewhat in line with what we were already doing,
- 21 but there were other issues within AB 2296 that were not
- 22 addressed that we were addressing in the regulations. And
- 23 that's why we have a couple of options for you today to
- 24 make sure that we get your direction on how we want to
- 25 continue at this point.

1 --000--

- 2 MR. CASTLE: The key issues that we have are that
- 3 the cost estimates need to be improved. We have issues
- 4 that have arised because of the BKK situation as an
- 5 example, but they are relevant throughout the state with
- 6 how financial demonstrations are utilized that we can
- 7 extend financial assurances for postclosure maintenance
- 8 beyond 30 years with relatively minor amendments to the
- 9 regulations, and then using existing financial mechanisms
- 10 for that time span beyond 30 years. And that we have an
- 11 option in the regulations for corrective action plans, not
- 12 financial assurance demonstrations.
- 13 And if I can take just a moment longer, on the
- 14 financial demonstrations, during the workshop we had used
- 15 a placeholder of how to calculate a better trust fund.
- 16 For example, and we used 50 years as the calculator
- 17 instead of 30. Before the workshop, had some time to run
- 18 the numbers a little bit more. And without compounding
- 19 the interest earned on the funds, we came to a conclusion
- 20 that if you had about 41 years' worth of money, then you
- 21 would have enough money almost for the numbers showed for
- 22 the workshop would be essentially a perpetual fund. The
- 23 operator could siphon from the interest only and never
- 24 touch the principle and be able to cover those ongoing
- 25 postclosure maintenance costs.

- 1 During the workshop, the discussion about that
- 2 was about if we were compounding that interest, we would
- 3 probably see a significant improvement on those returns.
- 4 And since that time, we have done that. And we've
- 5 determined that we were to obtain a 30-year estimate, as
- 6 we are now, hopefully even more improved 30-year estimate,
- 7 but a 30-year estimate, with a 20 percent contingency on
- 8 that, just like we do with the cost estimates for closure,
- 9 that under the current estimates, assuming all they do is
- 10 inflate, if the State were to obtain that money due to the
- 11 failure of the operator and we invested it in the State's
- 12 surplus money investment fund, which is where the Board
- 13 invests the money when we do obtain money from an
- 14 operator, that the interest earned -- the average interest
- 15 over the last 15 years of that fund with our average
- 16 inflation over the last 15 years using those parameters
- 17 and compounding it on an annual -- a monthly basis, we've
- 18 determined that that 30-year estimate would last for in
- 19 excess of 72 years, allowing the operator to -- that's a
- 20 pretty good extension of time just for the 20 percent
- 21 additional estimate. AB 2296 supports the contingency.
- 22 We think that's definitely a good start.
- 23 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Assuming the operator
- 24 didn't spend any of it.
- MR. CASTLE: For postclosure maintenance, the

1 operator is only allowed to use what we disburse from

- 2 those funds.
- 3 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I didn't mean go spend it
- 4 on a party or something. I just meant, you know, there
- 5 were needs that began to draw the fund down.
- 6 MR. CASTLE: No. This is with their annual
- 7 expenses drawn from the fund, the fund would last for 72
- 8 years.
- 9 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: So that accounts for an
- 10 estimate of what they would be drawing down?
- 11 MR. CASTLE: Yeah. What it does not account for
- 12 is if they have a major event, which is a corrective
- 13 action event. I didn't bring a slide for that because the
- 14 chart is way too big to put up on the screen.
- 15 --000--
- 16 MR. CASTLE: So Option 1. I think that's about
- 17 it. Option 1 is to clarify the closure/postclosure
- 18 maintenance and corrective cost estimates must be based on
- 19 costs the State may incur and address the need for
- 20 contingencies on all cost estimates; clarify the financial
- 21 demonstrations for postclosure maintenance; must assure
- 22 funds are fully available upon request of the Board;
- 23 clarify the financial assurance requirements for
- 24 postclosure maintain extend beyond 30 years; extend the
- 25 existing financial mechanisms to assure greater than 30

- 1 years of postclosure maintenance; and requires known or
- 2 reasonably foreseeable corrective action plans for all
- 3 landfills under Board authority.
- 4 --000--
- 5 MR. CASTLE: Option 2 will clarify that closure
- 6 and postclosure cost estimates must be based on costs the
- 7 State may incur and address the need for contingencies on
- 8 all those cost estimates and clarify that financial
- 9 demonstrations for postclosure maintenance must assure
- 10 funds are fully available upon request of the Board. And
- 11 that statement is basically due to the insurance problems
- 12 that we had in collecting insurance from or
- 13 closure/postclosure activities.
- 14 That concludes my presentation. Obviously, we're
- 15 all here for any questions. And I believe Howard has some
- 16 more.
- 17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Madam Chair, obviously
- 18 this is a very complicated issue. It involves a lot of
- 19 jargon and considerations about closure and postclosure
- 20 maintenance, which we currently require plans for, and
- 21 cost estimates and financial assurances, but only up to 30
- 22 years. The item covers corrective actions, which the
- 23 Water Board has requirements for, but we currently do not.
- 24 And what would be required for those in terms of plans and
- 25 cost estimates, and ultimately after the study, financial

- 1 assurances for those.
- 2 So what you have before you is Option 1
- 3 encompasses all of those various items: The cost estimate
- 4 issues and the longer-term requirements for corrective
- 5 action plans and for extending the financial assurance
- 6 mechanisms.
- 7 Option 2 is a narrower sub-set just focused on
- 8 the existing cost estimate and financial assurance
- 9 mechanisms and providing improvements to those. So we're
- 10 seeking your direction today and hopefully approval to go
- 11 out for a 45-day comment period on one of those.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Howard.
- We do have three speakers, so let's listen to
- 14 them first and then I'll take questions. Our first
- 15 speaker is Chuck Helget.
- MR. HELGET: Chairman Mulé, members of the Board,
- 17 I'm Chuck Helget representing Allied Waste. And we're
- 18 here today to support the staff recommendation of Option 2
- 19 be adopted by the Committee.
- I personally was involved in the negotiations on
- 21 AB 2296. And in my view, AB 2296 was intended to set a
- 22 rational regulatory process in place that would move us
- 23 past the rhetoric that oftentimes surrounds this issue and
- 24 provide the Board with a rational basis on which -- a
- 25 study, rational basis on which to make your decisions

- 1 about a regulatory package that will proceed following the
- 2 study.
- 3 We believe that Option 2 is consistent with the
- 4 intent of AB 2296 which requires that the Board adopt this
- 5 year a set of regulations that deal solely with improving
- 6 costs estimating procedures for closure and postclosure.
- 7 AB 2296 also calls for the Board to conduct a
- 8 long-term risk evaluation study. We firmly believe that
- 9 the Legislature intended the study to encompass broader
- 10 considerations regarding the Board's regulation of
- 11 closure/postclosure care, corrective action, and financial
- 12 assurances. We strongly believe that it was the intent of
- 13 the Legislature to defer substantive regulatory and
- 14 legislative changes pertaining to these issues until after
- 15 the completion of this study.
- During the workshop, as sort of an add-on during
- 17 the workshops on this topic that staff has conducted --
- 18 and staff has done I think a remarkable job in organizing
- 19 an extraordinarily complex topic. There's been a lot of
- 20 give and take over the past couple of years on the topic.
- 21 The industry, SWIG, is the Solid Waste Industry
- 22 Group, has provided a set of 19 or 20 additional comments
- 23 that deal specifically with the regulations. And we sort
- 24 of had somewhat of a moving target. You can expect that
- 25 we will resubmit those regulations if the Board adopts

- 1 Option 2 and moves forward with a set of regulations that
- 2 we have specific language to address. And those comments
- 3 again have been submitted to the Board in writing and
- 4 verbally, and we would ask they be considered as part of
- 5 that process. And we look forward to working with staff
- 6 on resolving what issues we might have remaining.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 9 Our next speaker is Bill Magavern.
- 10 MR. MAGAVERN: Thank you, Chair Mulé, Board
- 11 Member Danzinger, Board Member Chesbro. Good afternoon.
- 12 By way of background, I participated in most of
- 13 the workshops that the Board staff have held on this issue
- 14 as well as last year sponsoring with former Board Member
- 15 Peace AB 2296, the legislation we've been talking about.
- 16 And we think that the Board staff have now been doing for
- 17 many years very good work preparing for this. And now
- 18 it's time to translate that work into actual safeguards
- 19 that are going to protect the taxpayers and the health and
- 20 safety of the state.
- 21 If we look at the three possible options, Option
- 22 1 is the one that you will adopt if you want to move
- 23 quickly to make sure that we don't have a situation where
- 24 the State has to bail out a landfill operator because
- 25 there's been a major event that goes beyond the financial

- 1 assurances that are currently posted by that landfill
- 2 operator. This would cover all the contingencies and is
- 3 in no way inconsistent with AB 2296.
- 4 Option 2 I think is the bare minimum required by
- 5 the law. It would meet the first deadline set in the law
- 6 to update the cost estimates during this year.
- 7 And Option 3, the do nothing option, would
- 8 actually be in violation of the law. I think you could
- 9 infer that from the staff presentation, but I just want to
- 10 be very direct about it that, you know -- and I don't
- 11 think you're seriously considering that. Glad to hear
- 12 even my friend Mr. Helget is not suggesting that you do
- 13 nothing at all here.
- 14 So we would say, you know, we certainly would
- 15 urge you to move as aggressively as possible. If you
- 16 choose the more limited route, it would be very important
- 17 not to make any further weakening regulations, that the
- 18 Option 2 already is a substantial retreat from what was
- 19 proposed last year.
- Thanks. I would be happy to take any questions.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Bill.
- Our next speaker is George Larson.
- MR. LARSON: Madam Chair, Board Member Danzinger,
- 24 Senator, I'm here on behalf of Waste Management.
- I won't repeat what Mr. Helget stated in his

- 1 presentation, but I want to concur with everything he says
- 2 in the interest of time. I just feel very strongly that
- 3 in order to have the basic tools to do the calculations
- 4 that will be necessary during Phase 2 is quite contingent
- 5 upon the analysis that the respondents to your RFP who are
- 6 going to conduct this study will provide the information
- 7 necessary and mechanisms to be accurate. Because I'm sure
- 8 you don't want to have to retrace your steps at a later
- 9 date during Phase 2.
- 10 So with that, I'll just support staff's
- 11 recommendation for Option 2.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 13 Okay. That concludes our public speaking
- 14 portion.
- 15 Any comments, questions?
- 16 Board Member Danzinger.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I'll just say
- 18 briefly, you know, it's a tad unfortunate that we have
- 19 these two tracks that are happening right now with 2296
- 20 and what we did in July, because I think it creates an
- 21 artificial perception that we're thinking small on this
- 22 issue. And I think nothing could be further from the
- 23 truth. I think this organization has been at the tip of
- 24 the spear of this issue nationally. I mean, as was
- 25 discussed in the July Committee meeting and was reiterated

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

83

1 here today, U.S. EPA and other parties are trying to get

- 2 their arms around this issue too. And they're admitting
- 3 that there's no solution out there. We need to look at
- 4 this issue.
- 5 We haven't needed political pressure to move this
- 6 issue down the road. I know there are issues on both
- 7 sides. We have been moving it down, and it's not a matter
- 8 of wanting to go there or not wanting to go there. I
- 9 think we made it clear in July when we, you know, laid out
- 10 okay here's where we're going to go. I think we made it
- 11 clear that we want to get our arms around all these issues
- 12 up to and going beyond 30 years. There was also an
- 13 acknowledgement that 2296 was in motion.
- In a review of the July meeting, there are also a
- 15 couple presumptions that were made in the July meeting
- 16 among some folks that turned out to be wrong. There were
- 17 presumptions that 2296 has this in it and this in it, and
- 18 that just mirrors what we have in our rate package right
- 19 now. Those things were subsequently taken out.
- 20 I think if there was something that was never
- 21 contemplated, there's room to consider what was the
- 22 intent. If something is in there and that was removed, I
- 23 think that removes the capacity that you can talk about
- 24 when this intent was. Because it was clearly intended at
- 25 one time and it's not.

- 1 So I'll say the same thing I have said since
- 2 before my confirmation, okay, when I had to be ten times
- 3 more careful about this. I have to respect what's in the
- 4 law. If there was something that was not in our direction
- 5 in July but it turned out it was in 2296, I'm sure that
- 6 one of the options today would not be to not do those
- 7 elements of 2296 because we didn't consider it in our July
- 8 direction and concurrence with the staff.
- 9 So I think we're going there, and we're going to
- 10 get there. And I know I'm firmly committed to the
- 11 deadlines that we have, not just the '08. But getting the
- 12 study, seeing the wisdom in sort of getting all of these
- 13 longer-term issues in a single study and a single
- 14 rulemaking where we can have the collaborative process
- 15 where everybody is addressing all those issues. Because I
- 16 think there's an acknowledgement that all those issues,
- 17 all those elements are going to have a co-exist in a
- 18 single construct that's going to address all the issues
- 19 and up to 30 years.
- 20 So I just have more of a comfort level with
- 21 moving forward in compliance with 2296 moving along in the
- 22 same track. And again, I'll reiterate the first point
- 23 that I made. Please do not take this as a signal that
- 24 we're thinking small on this issue or that we're
- 25 backtracking from July. We're not backtracking from July.

- 1 We are in a time sense, you know -- I mean, we are in
- 2 terms of when things are going to go into a rulemaking
- 3 process. But we're still committed to this, and we're
- 4 still going to move forward.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 6 Board Member Chesbro.
- 7 I just want to make a brief comment, because
- 8 Board Member Danzinger, I'd like to just echo his
- 9 comments. This is a complex issue. And I have attended
- 10 most in not all of your workshops. I wasn't here in 2003,
- 11 so I couldn't attend that workshop. And you're right,
- 12 Howard. This is a very complex issue. And because it's a
- 13 complex issue, we need to be very thoughtful about how we
- 14 proceed down this path.
- 15 And I do know that in July when we were
- 16 discussing the direction, there were several comments
- 17 raised about what the outcome of 2296 might be if it does
- 18 pass. Well, it did pass. It did get approved. And I
- 19 think that lays out a path for us to follow, not that
- 20 we're going to back off of any of these other issues. But
- 21 I think if we're going to look at going beyond 30 years
- 22 for a postclosure maintenance and some of these other
- 23 issues, we need to adequately and thoroughly conduct the
- 24 risk assessment which is what this study is going to do.
- 25 And so I think that if we move forward with

- 1 conducting this study and then proceeding on the first
- 2 phase of the reg package, which is Option 2, we can move
- 3 down that path and then move forward based on this study.
- 4 That's going to tell us how to proceed with the second
- 5 phase of the reg package.
- 6 So with that, I'd like to propose that staff move
- 7 forward with Option 2, if that's okay with the rest of the
- 8 Committee.
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I agree with you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. This is just to give
- 11 direction to proceed with Option 2.
- 12 And thank you, Richard, Garth, Mike, Bernie.
- 13 I've seen all your work. You're doing a great job on
- 14 this. Thank you. Really appreciate your effort.
- 15 Okay. I think that's it. And then we have one
- 16 more item, Committee Item J.
- 17 ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR SMITH: Good afternoon,
- 18 Chair Mulé and Committee Member Danzinger and Board Member
- 19 Chesbro.
- 20 For the record, I'm John Smith, Acting Deputy
- 21 Director for Waste Prevention and Market Development. I
- 22 don't have any items for a Deputy Director report this
- 23 morning, so we'll just proceed to the item.
- 24 The item is Item J, Committee Item J or Board
- 25 Agenda Item Number 9, Request for Direction Regarding

- 1 Revisions to the Rigid Plastic Packaging Container
- 2 Regulation. Our presenter for today is Mike Leaon,
- 3 Supervisor for the Board's Plastics Recycling Technology
- 4 Section. Bill Orr will also present. Mike.
- 5 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 6 presented as follows.)
- 7 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 8 LEAON: Thank you, John. Good morning, Madam Chair and
- 9 Board Members Danzinger and Chesbro.
- 10 --000--
- 11 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 12 LEAON: The purpose of this item is also to seek direction
- 13 on rulemaking, to develop proposed changes to the rigid
- 14 plastic packaging container, or RPPC, regulations. And
- 15 we're seeking direction on processes and concepts to be
- 16 used in developing those changes.
- --o0o--
- 18 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 19 LEAON: Before getting into the processes and concepts,
- 20 first like to provide a little background information on
- 21 why we need to do this rulemaking. First, the regulations
- 22 were written prior to the Board having any experience with
- 23 executing the program. This was back in the mid '90s.
- 24 And since then, we've done several certifications. And we
- 25 found that as a result of those certifications that they

- 1 do not always lend themselves to efficient application in
- 2 real world situations, especially as the types and uses of
- 3 plastic packaging has greatly increased.
- 4 Also the regulations still reflect obsolete
- 5 provisions of the statute which are no longer effective.
- 6 This leads to the regulations having dead weight and can
- 7 also lead to confusion on the part of the regulated
- 8 community.
- 9 Also there have been recent statutory changes in
- 10 2005 and 2006. Senate Bills 733 and 1344 have added
- 11 additional compliance options to the law. And those have
- 12 not been addressed in regulation as of yet.
- 13 And also we find there's just a necessity for
- 14 more clarity in the regulations. The wording is dense.
- 15 The question and answer format is not the easiest to
- 16 follow. We need more specific definitions, especially in
- 17 regard to product manufacture and what a rigid plastic
- 18 packaging container is. And in general, there's too much
- 19 ambiguity.
- 20 --00o--
- 21 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 22 LEAON: Regarding the process we're proposing to use, it's
- 23 a two-phase process where we'd begin with an informal
- 24 review and comment period. And what we're proposing to do
- 25 is to form an Advisory Committee that would consist of

- 1 representatives from regulators, product manufacturers,
- 2 environmental groups, reprocessors, and industry
- 3 associations. They would help us to develop the revised
- 4 changes to the regulations which we would then release to
- 5 the wider stakeholder group, conduct at least two
- 6 workshops to get input from that wider stakeholder group,
- 7 and then revise the regulations further based on that
- 8 input, and bring the revised regulations back to the Board
- 9 for consideration of approval to notice with Office of
- 10 Administrative Law. At that point, that would initiate
- 11 the formal review and comment period. And once that's
- 12 initiated, we would have one year to complete the
- 13 rulemaking.
- 14 --000--
- 15 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 16 LEAON: Regarding proposed concepts to address in the
- 17 rulemaking. As I mentioned earlier the statutory changes,
- 18 we need to look at what additional regulatory change might
- 19 be needed for those compliance options. Also container
- 20 manufacturers are now subject to violation and penalties,
- 21 and we need to look at that as well.
- 22 Also, we want to improve the overall organization
- 23 and readability, moving away from the answer and question
- 24 format. And just restructure the regulations to make them
- 25 flow better and make it more easily understood.

- 1 Also, we would like to address some procedures
- 2 for conducting certifications that were developed as part
- 3 of a certification protocol approved by the Board at its
- 4 December 2004 meeting. These include procedures for
- 5 identifying companies, for notifying companies that they
- 6 may be required to make individual certification to the
- 7 Board, and then the actual process for selecting
- 8 companies. We found that there was a lack of
- 9 understanding and clarity about those processes both from
- 10 the regulated community and also on the Board. And we
- 11 feel that including those procedures in the regulations
- 12 will help to remove that ambiguity.
- 13 An issue that has come up is an appeal process
- 14 for container disputes. We have had situations where
- 15 Board staff and the regulator product manufacturer are in
- 16 disagreement about whether a particular package is a
- 17 regulated RPPC. And we would like to include in the
- 18 process an appeal process for product manufacturers to
- 19 resolve those disputes.
- 20 And other changes to improve clarity and
- 21 specificity, specifically the definitions I mentioned
- 22 previously.
- We feel there will be significant benefits to
- 24 updating the revised regulations, indeed, making them
- 25 easier to read and easier to understand both for the

- 1 regulated community and for the Board. Also incorporating
- 2 the processes that I've mentioned will again help greatly
- 3 to increase the understanding and implementation -- ease
- 4 of implementation of the program.
- 5 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Madam Chair, is the
- 6 presentation complete?
- 7 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 8 LEAON: Almost there. Sorry about that.
- 9 So, again, improving the clarity and specificity
- 10 in the regulations. And the overall objective is to
- 11 improve the efficiency and effectiveness in which the
- 12 Board can implement and enforce this program.
- --000--
- 14 PLASTICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 15 LEAON: So in conclusion, we believe that the regulatory
- 16 changes proposed and to be addressed in the rulemaking
- 17 will support the intent of the law to divert materials
- 18 from landfills and to support markets for postconsumer
- 19 materials. And staff recommends that the Board direct us
- 20 to implement Option 1 in which we'll inform the advisory
- 21 committee, conduct workshops with the larger stakeholder
- 22 audience, and then bring the revised regulations back to
- 23 the Board for approval to notice.
- 24 And that concludes my presentation.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Michael.

- 1 Board Member Chesbro.
- 2 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: In light of how long it's
- 3 been since the regs have been updated, and in light of I
- 4 think the fairly defined task -- it's not like the
- 5 broadest possible policy discussion about what should we
- 6 do about plastic. It's implementing statute and changes
- 7 based on experience that has been accumulated.
- 8 I guess I'm concerned about time and whether or
- 9 not you need -- and this is a question. And I'm open to
- 10 being convinced. But whether or not we really need to
- 11 start with an undefined sort of interest group discussion
- 12 or whether it would be more efficient to start with some
- 13 sort of a document or draft to then gather interest
- 14 groups.
- 15 And, I mean, I'm not trying to -- I don't think
- 16 in any way we should avoid public participation by the
- 17 folks who are interested or who are affected. But rather
- 18 than starting, you know, with the full universe, trying to
- 19 narrow the universe somewhat initially. And then getting
- 20 them together and saying, what do you think, folks, try to
- 21 speed it up a little bit. That would be my question. And
- 22 if there's something I'm not thinking of about why we have
- 23 to start so broadly, I'm certainly open to hearing that.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think that's a great idea to
- 25 define the issues. I think we have a handle on what the

- 1 problem areas are, if you will, or the areas that need
- 2 addressing. And so I think that that's a good suggestion.
- 3 I'm looking over at Mark. Mark, do you want to
- 4 address that?
- 5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: I'd be happy to, but I
- 6 think Michael and Bill could, too.
- 7 I think we do have a fairly refined set of issues
- 8 that we're ready to start to deal with. So it isn't in
- 9 any way, shape, or form a blank slate that we're starting
- 10 with. I think we've got the current regs to build from
- 11 that need to be refined and moved away from the question
- 12 and answer format as well as a series of issues, I think a
- 13 good part of which are listed on Page 4 of the agenda item
- 14 that discuss kind of some the things we look to tackle
- 15 first and foremost.
- The only tempering of my enthusiasm moving
- 17 forward quickly is, as we all know, this is a fairly
- 18 contentious issue. And it does involve quite a bit of
- 19 stakeholder input. I think there will be a lot of
- 20 stakeholders who will seek to affect the roles. And the
- 21 question is, you know, that's always a challenge for us to
- 22 wade through a lot of input with the limited resources we
- 23 have.
- 24 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Well, Madam Chair, that
- 25 being said, if you assume we're not trying to somehow

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- 1 limit stakeholder participation, because that's not my
- 2 point, it would make sense to me that Option -- or even
- 3 possibly Option 3, but Option 2 is sort of in between,
- 4 which starts trying to put some framework in place for the
- 5 interest groups to respond to, rather than sort of
- 6 starting out just with general discussions about where we
- 7 ought to be going. Those are my thoughts. And, again,
- 8 I'm interloping. I'm not a member of the Committee.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: That's fine. We appreciate
- 10 your input.
- 11 RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES BRANCH MANAGER ORR: This
- 12 is Bill Orr with the Recycling Technologies Branch.
- 13 I think we could pursue a couple of different
- 14 courses in that regard. One would be to have a very
- 15 narrowly defined set of options like the ones that we have
- 16 laid out in the agenda where we would pursue what some of
- 17 the options to address each of those issues could be. The
- 18 other option would be to actually have a straw proposal
- 19 that would be staff's first cut at what each of those
- 20 areas might look like. And so I think those are two
- 21 different ways that we could pursue through the advisory
- 22 committee setting, subject to the Committee's direction.
- BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: From my standpoint, the
- 24 more specificity you start with -- and it's not to say it
- 25 can't be changed, because that's the only way you get the

- 1 stakeholders together. But you focus the discussion
- 2 rather than starting from a very, very broad discussion,
- 3 the more specificity you can get to to put before them,
- 4 the better, in my opinion.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 6 Board Member Danzinger, do you have anything?
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: No. I mean, that
- 8 sounds prudent. You know, I mean, if that's what we're
- 9 going to consider, I guess I need to hear a little bit
- 10 more how that would look. And I'm guessing that the
- 11 people who came here to speak on this issue now have
- 12 something different to comment on. So we probably need to
- 13 flush this out verbally a little bit more as to -- because
- 14 that's not on paper here. I mean, what exactly are we
- 15 talking about then? Because I agree that the law has been
- 16 on the books for a long time. And, you know, I mean, so
- 17 there's certainly a large compendium of dialogue and back
- 18 and forth and knowledge that we gleaned from all this that
- 19 I guess could be built into a quicker jump start to the
- 20 process. But how would that look and how would that play
- 21 out?
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Let's hear from our two
- 23 speakers. We have two speakers. George Larson first.
- MR. LARSON: Madam Chair, Board members, I'm
- 25 George Larson representing Illinois Tool Works and the

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1 American Chemistry Council. So I am responding to a bit

- 2 of a moving target here, but I certainly understand the
- 3 Senator's point. Besides that, it was made clear that in
- 4 order to be on the advisory committee, you had to be an
- 5 expert, which would have excluded me. So maybe we can get
- 6 rid of that.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: You have some expertise,
- 8 George.
- 9 MR. LARSON: In, you know, looking at the history
- 10 of the Board's handling of these issues -- and maybe this
- 11 certainly isn't as complex as the postclosure issue, it's
- 12 still complex. The Board in direction in the past has
- 13 this informal process before going into the formal
- 14 process. So I think if I were to have my input here just
- 15 responding to what this discussion is this morning that we
- 16 still need to have an informal process to get some key
- 17 people together and flush out some ideas and give some
- 18 thoughts to staff before they put something down in
- 19 writing. But of course, you'll make that final decision.
- I do support, as I came prepared to comment, the
- 21 staff's recommendation. But I understand that there is
- 22 some concerns about scheduling.
- I also would just like to make two comments about
- 24 the list on your Item 9, page 4. There's a list of eight
- 25 items there. And I just -- and Senator Chesbro, thank you

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- 1 for being the author of both 743 and 1344, which I believe
- 2 firmly broadens the base to create the upward pressure if
- 3 you will to pull the rope rather than push it and creating
- 4 new and better markets for postconsumer resin.
- 5 Having said that, it's important that staff look
- 6 at those laws carefully as it relates to container
- 7 manufacturers. Most of the focus in one through eight
- 8 here are to the product manufacturers. The whole point
- 9 was they're having some personal experience from my client
- 10 who was fined because a container manufacturer wasn't
- 11 fully forthcoming in their certification. Did I say that
- 12 right? Still got a fine. So this levels the playing
- 13 field as it were to bring them into the flock.
- 14 Besides that, I don't have these numbers, and I
- 15 know your staff are more expert than me. But there's a
- 16 whole much larger universe of product manufacturers than
- 17 container manufacturers. So that might be another
- 18 effective tool for you to focus a message to the most
- 19 critical audience.
- 20 And then, finally, I would hope that in the
- 21 regulatory review that the entire regulations package
- 22 would be open for discussion and possible review. And
- 23 specifically, I believe there was a very effective
- 24 mechanism prior to the establishment of the enforcement
- 25 schedule as it's referred to, you know. Go to box nine,

- 1 move over to three, and it's \$25,000. There used to be a
- 2 Compliance Order, and the Compliance Order company
- 3 recognized and acknowledged that they were not in
- 4 compliance with the law, sat down with your Program and
- 5 Legal staff and crafted a Compliance Order to take the
- 6 specific actions to come into compliance. And I believe
- 7 that's the intent of the law is to bring everybody into
- 8 compliance, not just to fine them financially. So I would
- 9 like to request that that specific issue be included in
- 10 the discussion. Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 12 Our next speaker is Randy Pollack.
- 13 MR. POLLACK: Thank you, Madam Chair and Board
- 14 members. My name is Randy Pollack. For the past eight
- 15 years, I've been representing several companies and
- 16 manufacturers in complying with the RPPC law.
- 17 I was here to support Option 1, because I think
- 18 it's very important that the knowledge that we have
- 19 learned from the manufacturing side and also the container
- 20 manufacturing side that we be able to contribute what we
- 21 see are the issues that we think need to be looked at
- 22 during this whole process. What the Board and their staff
- 23 may be thinking about what to do with this program, we
- 24 believe it's also important to hear from us. Because in
- 25 trying to have companies comply with this law, we've run

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99

1 into a series of difficulties, which we have talked to

- 2 informally with the Board and staff, but would be more
- 3 important just to have an opportunity of sitting down with
- 4 the staff and lay out what we see the concerns. So we
- 5 believe in an informal setting that would be very helpful.
- 6 We can bring in players such as some of the major
- 7 retailers who have some concerns with the law in trying to
- 8 comply with it. For that reason, we would be in strong
- 9 support of Option 1. Thank you.
- 10 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Let me ask a question.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Sure.
- 12 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Randy, did you see any
- 13 problem with the process being so long as to allow
- 14 uncertainty to fester in terms of where this thing is
- 15 going and causing problems because we take too long? I'm
- 16 trying to find the balance between what I think is
- 17 legitimate in terms of what you and George Larson have
- 18 said about participation on the one hand. On the other
- 19 hand, not having an uncertain regulatory climate about
- 20 where this thing is going.
- 21 MR. POLLACK: In response to that, I would say
- 22 companies that I represent, they would be here -- if you
- 23 want meetings for the next week or two weeks to sort of
- 24 handle something, they will be here. They believe this is
- 25 a very important issue. They aren't trying to string out

- 1 a process. They're more than willing to work the Board
- 2 and the staff in whatever sort of time frame they want.
- 3 If they want to do an informal hearing in the next month,
- 4 so then within the next couple months they can draft out.
- 5 We don't believe that such discussions would really delay
- 6 the process that long.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I'm glad you
- 8 mentioned that, because that was going to be my question.
- 9 Because the difference in the timing appears to be the
- 10 existence or nonexistence of an informal process. And the
- 11 item references in the next several months, how rapidly
- 12 could we move through an informal process that gives us --
- 13 you know, informs us on, you know, what's happening out
- 14 there and all this and that. And so it keeps that, but
- 15 you know, gets us to the next stage pretty quick. I don't
- 16 know how long that --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think that we can set those
- 18 parameters. I mean, that's it. I think that's Board
- 19 Member Chesbro's point, is we can drag this on for years
- 20 on end, and we want to get this process completed as
- 21 effectively and efficiently as we can. So I think that
- 22 there's some compromise in here. I agree with you,
- 23 Senator Chesbro, is that we need to get moving on this,
- 24 because it's been frustrating for all of us, stakeholders,
- 25 staff, Board members, all involved.

- 1 So I think rather than say Option 1 or Option 2,
- 2 let's maybe perhaps do a hybrid of 1 and 2 and include all
- 3 those items. But we would like to see a schedule if you
- 4 can come back to us with a schedule of when you will have
- 5 this done so that we are assured that this process will be
- 6 conducted within a certain time line.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Randy said a week or two,
- 8 so let's go. I'm sure that won't be a problem for the
- 9 staff.
- 10 MR. POLLACK: We'll be at the meeting next week.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: The other issue that I want to
- 12 bring up is we did receive a number of letters from a
- 13 number of companies. I won't name them all: KW Plastics,
- 14 Clean Tech, Envision Plastics, Talco indicating there
- 15 seems to be a perception out there that there is a lack of
- 16 enforcement for the current certification process.
- 17 And, Mark, I would appreciate if you can address
- 18 that. Because I'm concerned that there is this perception
- 19 that there is a lack of enforcement going on, and we know
- 20 that not to be the case.
- 21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: Thank you, Madam
- 22 Chair. I share your concern, and I was also a recipient
- 23 of those letters as you know. And, in fact, I met with
- 24 many of the letter writers last week in my office either
- 25 in person or via conference call and explained to them

- 1 that it's kind of an unfortunate misperception on their
- 2 part that somehow enforcement is not continuing in our
- 3 RPPC program.
- 4 I suppose the reason that they're coming to that
- 5 conclusion or making that suggestion is the 2005 process
- 6 has been a little bit delayed. But as I reassured those
- 7 letter writers last week, that delay does not necessarily
- 8 mean it's been stymied or stopped in any way, shape, or
- 9 form. In fact, we look to kick that process back up in
- 10 the very near future and continue it to its completion in
- 11 the coming months.
- 12 So with that reassurance, I felt like the letter
- 13 writers who are making the suggestion were convinced that
- 14 it is, in fact, not discontinued in any way, shape, or
- 15 form and are looking forward to our continuance of the
- 16 2005 process.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you. Thank you very
- 18 much.
- 19 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Madam Chair, in the spirit
- 20 of the idea of speeding things up, rather than having this
- 21 Committee wait a month, is it conceivable by that the
- 22 Board meeting next week that what the Chair requested
- 23 could be before the Board?
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Excellent suggestion. Staff,
- 25 you can bring back a time line to us for the Board

- 1 meeting, and we can just bring this up. So we'll just
- 2 have this heard before the full Board so you can bring
- 3 back a time line for us.
- 4 ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR SMITH: Correct.
- 5 RECYCLING TECHNOLOGY BRANCH MANAGER ORR: Just
- 6 one point of clarification. In terms of whether or not we
- 7 would have sort of the concept step before we would do a
- 8 straw proposal, do you want us to do it both ways and you
- 9 could look at it either way, or do you want us to start
- 10 with more of a staff draft reg proposal?
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: No. I think what we had said
- 12 is come back with Option 1 which is the concepts. Okay.
- 13 But we want a time line on when you're going to get this
- 14 done. So you include the informal process and the
- 15 advisory committee. You're going to convene the advisory
- 16 committee, but we want to speed it up a little bit.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: With an
- 18 encouragement to be as ambitious as you feel comfortable
- 19 on the timing of the informal stage of the process.
- 20 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I'm going to say one more
- 21 thing to be self-evident. I apologize if it is. But it
- 22 needs to be a very diverse and balanced Committee.
- 23 Because there's folks who don't have as immediate a stake
- 24 as the product and container manufacturers, but who do pay
- 25 the price at the collection and recycling and disposal and

104 1 the private waste haulers in local government as well as 2 the environmental community who have a real stake in what 3 happens with plastics. So it needs to be more than just 4 the folks who are regulated in order for it to be a 5 balanced discussion. 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Great. So you have direction. 7 You understand it. Good. Any other comments? Any further public input? 8 9 Seeing none, this meeting is adjourned. Thank 10 you all. (Thereupon the California Integrated Waste 11 Management Board, Board of Administration 12 13 Permitting and Enforcement Committee 14 adjourned at 12:42 p.m.) 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

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